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July 1982

Vegetable

OUTLOOK & SITUATION

NOTICE

The Economic Research Service has discontinued free general distribution of publications, including Outlook and Situation reports. Funds must be redirected to maintain basic research and analysis programs. Except for members of the news media, land grant universities, and certain other information outlets, reports will be available on a paid subscription basis through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. To order ERS releases, please fill out the subscription form on the inside back cover.

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Summary

Fresh vegetable supplies this summer will likely be slightly higher than last year. Grower prices are expected to average below a year ago. However, increased marketing costs could keep retail prices of fresh vegetables above last year. Meanwhile, larger supplies of frozen vegetables and the slower increases in marketing costs will likely temper year-to-year increases in prices of processed vegetables. The larger planted area of fall-crop potatoes suggests that grower and retail prices of fresh and processed potatoes through early 1983 may be lower than a year earlier.

Growers of major fresh vegetables expect to harvest 3 percent more area this summer, and based on 1979-81 average yields, production may increase slightly from last year. Grower prices for fresh vegetables will likely decrease seasonally during the third quarter and will average from about the same to about a sixth lower than last year.

During the first half of 1982, the retail price index for fresh vegetables (excluding potatoes) averaged 14 percent higher than a year ago. For all of 1982, the index will rise 8 to 20 percent from 1981's 263. In contrast, the index of grower prices during January-June declined 4-1/2 percent from last year. A moderate increase in production and larger imports from Mexico contributed to the decrease. The index for all of 1982 will likely average from even with to about a tenth less than the 1981's 135.

Growers and processors of four major vegetables (snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and tomatoes) contracted for and planted 1.28 million acres, 6 percent more than in 1981 and 2-1/2 percent greater than indicated in March. The planted acreage generally reflects each crop's respective stock position. The contracted area of the side-dish vegetables (snap beans, sweet corn, and green peas) increased 2 percent, with a sharp expansion in the acreage devoted to frozen vegetables offsetting a moderate decline for canned vegetables. Meanwhile, the processing tomato industry—whose stocks were sharply reduced after two consecutive small crops—planted about a fifth larger area this year.

Prices of both canned and frozen vegetables have stabilized in recent months because of softened demand and the slowdown in marketing costs. But, moderate to substantial price increases for processed vegetables could arise later this year because of reduced canned supplies and a possible sales gain spurred by higher consumer incomes. Nevertheless, because of a slower rise in marketing costs and expected ample supplies of frozen vegetables, any increases should be moderate. For all of 1982, the retail price index for processed vegetables will likely average 6 to 11 percent above 1981's 131.9.

Farmers planted 1.12 million acres of fall-crop potatoes, up 5 percent from a year ago. They currently expect to harvest 1.10 million, also up 5 percent. As a result, fall potato production—which accounts for 85 to 90 percent of the annual U.S. outturn—will likely increase 4 to 6 percent from last year. This would be the largest crop since 1978. Of the leading producing States, harvested acreage is forecast to increase 5 percent in Idaho, 2 percent in Washington, and 1 percent in Maine.

Relatively good potato prices the past 2 years encouraged the larger plantings. However, this year's grower and retail prices have been below last year's record. Farmers received an average $7.93 per cwt during July, down from $9.81 last year, but over a fourth higher than the 1977-81 average. Meanwhile, retail prices of fresh potatoes were a sixth lower than in 1981. Despite the 9-percent rise in 1981 fall potato production (primarily a storage crop), strong processor demand to rebuild stocks of frozen potato products buoyed prices at all levels during first-half 1982. The higher prices also reflected reduced supplies of table-stock potatoes and lowered spring production in Kern County, California, which provides the largest portion of spring output.

The increase in this year's output and large processor stocks should more than outweigh a possible pickup in consumer demand. Therefore, potato prices through early 1983 will likely average less than a year earlier. As of July 1, stocks of frozen potatoes totaled 939 million pounds, 18 percent larger than a year ago and 3 percent more than the 1977-81 average.

Large supplies of dry edible beans, coupled with lagging export demand, have lowered prices. During July, growers received an average $17.50 per cwt, less than half of a year ago. In response, farmers planted 1.92 million acres this year, down 17 percent from last year. Nevertheless, given average yields and crop abandonment, this year's outturn would be the second or third largest ever. In recent years, Mexico contracted for substantial quantities of dry beans—375,000 metric tons in 1981/82, more than a fourth of U.S. production. However, Mexico currently has large stocks and has indicated no interest in negotiating forward contracts. Therefore, unless some export demand surfaces, the prospect of large supplies will keep prices for the rest of this year below 1981.

Vegetable Situation

FRESH VEGETABLES

Recent Developments

First-Half 1982 Production Up Moderately

Production of eight major vegetable crops for fresh market during the first 6 months of the year totaled 72.3 million cwt, a 3-1/2-percent rise from last year. Output gains for tomatoes (10 percent), carrots (14 percent), onions (24 percent), and broccoli (6 percent) offset declines for lettuce, sweet corn, celery, and cauliflower.

Lettuce production, which accounts for 35 to 40 percent of the output of the eight vegetables during January-June, fell slightly because of a moderate decline in harvested area. Yields averaged 7 percent higher, despite the whitefly infestation that plagued fields in California's Imperial Valley during January and February.

Despite a Florida freeze and a 12-percent reduction in harvested acreage, first-half 1982 tomato production rose a tenth. Open weather after the freeze, favorable prices, and good quality caused a high utilization of the crop and a 25-percent gain in yields from last year. Yields of both broccoli and cauliflower crops were down from a year ago because of rainy spring weather in California.

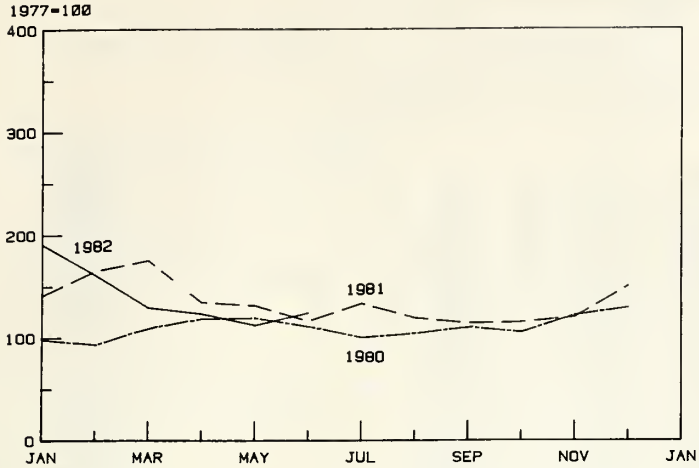
Larger imports of fresh vegetables from Mexico during the first half of the year also boosted supplies. Imports of major items (tomatoes, cucumbers, bell peppers, squash, green onions, and snap beans) rose 8 percent from a year ago. Excellent growing conditions in Mexico and, to a lesser extent, the Florida freeze spurred the increase.

Retail Prices Post Substantial Increases

The retail price index for fresh vegetables (excluding potatoes) averaged 321.5 (1967=100) during January-June, 15 percent more than last year. Fresh vegetable prices at the grocery store skyrocketed during January and February because of the Florida freeze and the California whitefly infestation. In addition, marketing costs increased. The Economic Research Service's index of the farm-to-retail price spread for fresh vegetables during January-May was 11 percent higher than a year earlier.

Sharply higher prices for lettuce, cabbage, celery, and snap beans contributed the most to the price surge. On the other hand, retail prices of onions, carrots, and tomatoes averaged below a year ago. The retail price index has since declined. In June, the index stood at 303.1, up nearly a fifth from last year.

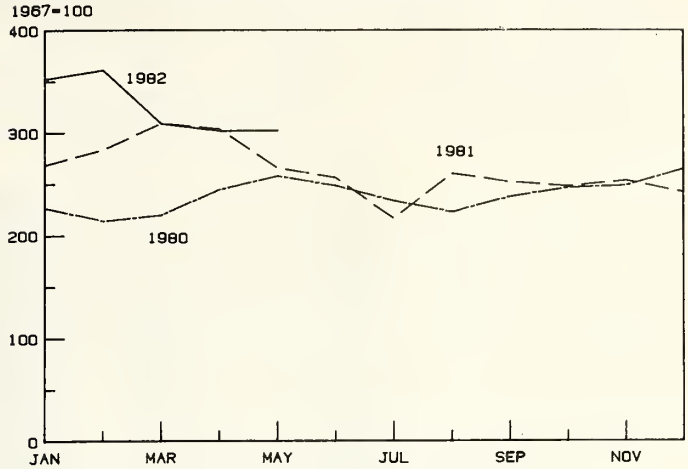
Commercial Vegetable Index Prices Received by Farmers*



* For fresh market.

USDA Neg. ERS 2376-82 (7)

Fresh Vegetables (excluding potatoes) Consumer Price Index *



* Derived by ERS from BLS data excluding potatoes.

USDA Neg. ERS 347-82 (7)

Meanwhile, the index of grower prices for fresh market vegetables during first-half 1982 averaged 139 (1977=100), down 4-1/2 percent from a year ago. The index averaged 160 during the winter and then declined to 117 during the spring. Although winter freezes hit Florida in both 1981 and 1982, damage this year was less extensive. Increased production of fresh vegetables, along with larger imports from Mexico, caused farm prices to average below a year ago. In mid-July, the index was 113, compared with 131 last year. The farm value represented about 30 percent of retail fresh vegetable prices during January-May, down about a tenth from last year.

[USDA's Crop Reporting Board collects the data for, computes, and publishes the index of prices received by growers of fresh market vegetables. However, as a result of program reductions, the index coverage was lowered from 13 to 6 vegetables starting with the February 1982 index. Vegetables now in the index include carrots, celery, sweet corn, lettuce, onions, and tomatoes. Vegetables eliminated from the index are asparagus, snap beans, cabbage, cantaloups, cucumbers, green peppers, and watermelons.]

Outlook

Summer Vegetable Area Increases

The prospective harvest acreage of seven fresh-market vegetables (broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, lettuce, and tomatoes) during the summer quarter is placed at 270,380, almost 3 percent more than last year. The broccoli and carrot area for harvest is substantially higher, while the acreage for the other items remains near last year's.

Based on 1979-81 average yields of the seven crops, July-September production would be up less than 1 percent. Through mid-July, crop prospects were generally good, although cool weather in California slowed the development of many vegetables.

Summer nonstorage onion production is forecast to be up slightly from last year. Hail and high winds early this summer in the Texas High Plains, where a significant share of the crop is grown, reduced harvested area and yields. The harvested area for summer storage onions—which contribute 50 to 60 percent of annual U.S. production—is expected to total a record-high 55,030 acres, a 4-percent rise from last year. Relatively strong grower prices the past 2 years have probably caused the increase.

[As part of its program reductions, the Crop Reporting Board no longer estimates acreage, yield, production, price, and value for the following fresh-market vegetables and melons: artichokes, asparagus, snap beans, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cantaloup, cucumbers, eggplant, escarole/endive, garlic, green peppers, watermelons, and spinach. Data and information from other USDA and State agencies will make it possible to provide some analysis of the affected crops. However, it will no longer be possible to get an early look at the area for harvest and prospective production, as well as these factors' possible effects on prices. The cutbacks in coverage will require new procedures for estimating per capita consumption for the above vegetables and melons.]

Prices Decline Seasonally

Prices of fresh vegetables will decline seasonally for the remainder of the summer as farmers swell market supplies from such northern growing areas as New Jersey, New York, Michigan, and Washington. However, prices relative to a year ago present differing pictures at the grower and retail levels. Farm prices of fresh vegetables, as measured by the index of prices received, have been slightly below a year ago through the first half of the year. A 3-percent rise in the acreage for harvest during July-September suggests greater supplies than a year ago. This would tend to keep prices below last year. However, weather, as always, will play an important part in determining actual supplies. Even with increased supplies, an upturn in general economic conditions could increase demand at all levels of the marketing system. On balance though, the index of prices received by growers for fresh vegetables during the third quarter will probably average from slightly above last year's 121 to

Table 1—Fresh vegetables: Representative prices for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available), New York, Chicago, and shipping point, indicated periods, 1981 and 1982

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday 1981 May 5	June 2	July 7	1982 May 4	June 1	July 6
			Dollars					
Terminal markets:								
New York								
Beans, snap, green	Florida	Bu. basket	10.50	9.00	—	17.50	15.00	—
Broccoli	California	14-bchs., crt. & ctn.	8.75	11.50	11.00	8.25	9.50	7.25
Cabbage								
Domestic, round type	New York	Various used crates	6.25	—	—	—	—	—
Cantaloups	California	36's jumbo crt.	39.00	10.00	15.00	—	14.50	9.50
Carrots, topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag ctn.	10.00	11.00	9.50	10.50	8.00	9.00
Cauliflower	California	Carton 12's	10.00	15.00	12.00	11.50	12.00	—
Celery								
Pascal	California	2-3 doz., crt.	17.00	16.00	13.00	10.50	15.00	13.00
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz., ctn.	11.50	9.50	10.00	9.50	9.50	9.75
Spinach, Savoy	New Jersey	Bu. basket	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomatoes	Florida	8 lb. bskt., med.	10.50	10.75	9.50	—	13.00	—
Chicago								
Broccoli	California	14's crt. & ctn.	9.25	11.25	10.00	8.00	9.75	8.50
Cabbage								
Domestic, round type	Texas	Various used crates	6.00	6.75	—	—	—	—
Cantaloups	California	18's jumbo crt.	—	—	13.50	—	—	10.50
Carrots, topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag, ctn.	10.00	11.75	10.50	11.50	9.75	9.50
Cauliflower	California	Film wrpd., ctns, 12's	9.75	12.50	13.00	11.00	11.50	12.50
Celery								
Pascal	California	2-3 doz., crt.	16.50	15.50	15.50	11.50	15.00	13.50
Pascal	Florida	2-4 doz., crt.	15.00	15.50	—	—	—	—
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu. basket	15.50	9.50	—	21.00	12.00	—
Honeydews	Texas	2/3-flat crt. 6-8's	—	7.50	6.50	—	10.00	6.75
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. heads, ctn.	9.50	9.75	10.00	6.00	10.00	7.00
Spinach, flat type	Illinois	Bu. basket	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomatoes	Florida	25-lb. carton med.-lge.	10.50	10.00	9.50	9.75	13.75	10.50
			Week ended					
1980	1981		May 9	June 6	July 4	May 8	June 5	July 10
			Dollars					
F.o.b. shipping point:								
Onions, medium	Texas	50 lb. sack Grano	9.00	—	7.00	7.60	4.25	—
Onions, medium	California	50 lb. sack Grano	10.00	—	—	7.00	4.04	5.13
Watermelons	Florida	25 lb. av. and larger per cwt.	11.00	7.45	5.00	9.10	9.67	—

Source: Weekly summary of terminal market prices, Market News Report, AMS, USDA.

Table 2—Fresh vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and grower and packer return per unit, sold in Baltimore, indicated months, 1981 and 1982

Commodity, month, and retail unit	Retail price[1]	Marketing margin: Absolute	Marketing margin: Percentage of retail price	Grower and packer return (for shipping point prices)[2, 3]: Absolute	Grower and packer return: Percentage of retail price
	Cents	*Cents*	*Percent*	*Cents*	*Percent*
Cabbage (lb.)					
April 1982	36.0	28.0	78	8.0	22
March 1982	39.0	21.7	56	17.3	44
April 1981	27.0	20.6	76	6.4	24
Carrots (lb.)					
April 1982	42.0	27.0	64	15.0	36
March 1982	48.0	32.7	68	15.3	32
April 1981	52.0	40.2	77	11.8	23
Celery (lb.)					
April 1982	34.8	21.4	61	13.4	39
March 1982	37.2	22.6	61	14.6	39
April 1981	31.5	25.1	79	6.4	20
Corn, sweet (doz. ears)					
April 1982	480.0	325.0	68	155.0	32
March 1982	NA	NA	NA	274.0	NA
April 1981	396.0	236.0	59	160.0	41
Cucumbers (lb.)					
April 1982	49.1	29.8	61	19.3	39
March 1982	76.9	38.6	50	38.3	50
April 1981	68.7	44.7	65	24.0	35
Lettuce (head)					
April 1982	114.0	46.8	41	67.2	59
March 1982	59.0	45.3	77	13.7	23
April 1981	69.0	52.4	76	16.6	24
Onions, dry yellow (lb.)					
April 1982	41.0	31.7	77	9.3	23
March 1982	36.0	23.3	65	12.7	35
April 1981	52.0	31.3	60	20.7	40
Peppers, green (lb.)					
April 1982	70.1	38.8	55	31.3	45
March 1982	98.2	54.4	55	43.8	45
April 1981	151.9	24.2	16	127.7	84
Tomatoes, vine-ripe (lb.)					
April 1982	70.0	42.0	60	28.0	40
March 1982	99.0	44.4	45	54.6	55
April 1981	139.0	68.4	49	70.6	51

[1]Retail prices from Maryland Department of Agriculture. [2]For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers; because of waste and spoilage during marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit. [3]Production areas; Cabbage-Florida, Carrots-California, Celery-California, Corn-Florida, Cucumbers-Florida, Lettuce-California, Onions-Texas, Peppers-Florida and Tomatoes-Florida.

Table 3—Fresh vegetables: Representative truck rates for selected fresh vegetables, January-June 1981-82[1]

Commodity, area and city	1981						1982					
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
	Dollars per package											
Cabbage (50 lb. wirebound crate)												
Southern Florida to												
Atlanta	.88	.88	.88	1.00	.92	—	1.08	.95	.88	.88	.88	—
Chicago	2.25	2.08	2.13	2.30	2.30	—	—	2.12	2.22	2.22	2.22	—
New York City	2.05	2.00	2.08	2.30	2.30	—	2.02	2.08	2.25	2.30	2.30	—
Rio Grande Valley, Texas to												
Atlanta	1.85	1.73	1.69	1.81	1.85	1.85	1.92	1.73	1.85	1.84	1.73	2.30
Chicago	2.27	2.12	2.12	2.19	2.15	2.15	2.19	2.08	2.15	2.19	2.12	2.30
New York City	3.23	3.23	3.23	3.23	3.23	3.23	3.23	3.12	3.08	3.23	3.15	3.23
Carrots (48/1 lb. film)												
Imperial Valley, California to												
Atlanta	2.31	2.44	2.78	2.85	2.85	—	3.00	2.92	3.38	3.00	3.15	—
Chicago	2.62	2.62	2.77	3.00	2.92	—	2.77	2.77	3.23	2.92	3.00	—
New York City	3.54	3.54	3.85	4.08	3.84	—	3.69	3.85	4.62	3.69	4.23	—
Los Angeles	.76	.76	.76	.76	.76	—	.81	.81	.81	.81	.81	—
Rio Grande Valley, Texas to												
Atlanta	1.50	1.41	1.38	1.47	1.50	1.50	1.56	1.41	1.50	1.50	1.41	1.87
Chicago	1.84	1.72	1.72	1.78	1.75	1.75	1.78	1.69	1.75	1.78	1.72	1.87
Dallas	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80
New York City	2.62	2.69	2.62	2.62	2.62	2.62	2.62	2.53	2.50	2.62	2.56	2.62
Celery (60 lb. wirebound crate)												
Southern California to												
Atlanta	3.00	2.92	2.92	3.17	3.33	4.58	3.25	3.25	3.66	3.33	3.58	5.00
Chicago	3.00	2.75	2.75	3.08	3.08	4.58	2.75	2.92	3.58	3.25	3.50	4.08
New York City	4.00	3.80	4.00	4.42	4.25	6.66	4.16	4.25	5.08	4.08	4.91	5.75
Southern Florida to												
Atlanta	1.00	.95	.95	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
Chicago	2.13	2.08	2.03	2.32	2.30	2.30	2.35	2.30	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.30
New York City	2.10	1.98	2.00	2.02	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.22	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38
Corn (4-3/4 doz. wirebound crate)												
Southern Florida to												
Chicago	2.00	2.00	1.98	2.05	2.00	2.00	1.95	2.10	2.20	2.18	2.18	2.18
New York City	1.95	1.93	1.88	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.95	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10
Lettuce (24 head ctn.)												
Imperial Valley, California to												
Atlanta	1.88	2.00	2.25	2.31	—	—	2.44	2.38	2.75	2.43	—	—
Chicago	2.12	2.12	2.25	2.44	—	—	2.25	2.25	2.63	2.37	—	—
Dallas	1.25	1.50	1.62	1.62	—	—	1.56	1.75	2.00	1.56	—	—
Los Angeles	.62	.62	.62	.62	—	—	.66	.66	.66	.66	—	—
New York City	2.87	2.87	3.12	3.31	—	—	3.00	3.12	3.75	3.00	—	—
Potatoes (100-lb. sack)												
Idaho Falls, Idaho to												
Atlanta	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.40	4.64	4.64	4.64	4.52	4.40	4.40
Chicago	3.45	3.45	3.33	3.33	3.33	3.33	3.45	3.37	3.45	3.45	3.33	3.33
Presque Isle, Maine to												
Atlanta	3.54	3.48	3.83	3.85	3.54	3.54	3.38	3.86	3.80	3.64	3.54	3.54
New York City	2.22	2.33	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.30	2.49	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.36
Western and Central New York to												
Atlanta	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38	—	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.20	—
New York City	2.22	2.33	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.30	2.49	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.36
Tomatoes, Vine Ripe (30 lb. ctn. 1981)												
Southern Florida to												
Atlanta	.52	.52	.52	.52	.52	—	.55	.62	.58	.58	.58	.56
Chicago	1.25	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.62	—	1.20	1.20	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
New York City	1.25	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.62	—	1.20	1.22	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20

Source: [1]AMS - Fruit and Vegetable Truck Rate Report first week of the month. — = not available.

Table 4—Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage and production of principal crops, major States, 1981 and 1982

Seasonal group and crop	Area for harvest 1981	Area for harvest 1982	Percent of 1981	Production[1] 1981	Production[1] 1982	Percent of 1981[4]
	Thousand acres			*Million cwt*		
January-June	297.9	292.2	98	65.1	66.4	102
July 1						
Broccoli[2]	15.5	18.0	116	1.4	1.6	116
Carrots[2]	20.0	23.2	116	6.2	7.2	115
Cauliflower[2]	13.9	14.2	102	1.6	1.5	95
Celery[2]	8.1	8.3	102	4.2	4.2	101
Sweet corn	102.8	102.2	99	7.3	7.3	100
Lettuce	49.6	50.5	102	14.2	13.8	97
Tomatoes	53.5	54.0	101	10.7	10.2	95
Honeydew melons	11.9	14.2	119	2.1	2.6	125
Total 8 vegetables & melons[3]	275.3	284.6	103	47.7	48.4	102

[1]January-June production data are as published by the Crop Reporting Board. For July 1, 1981 data are estimated production based on acres harvested during July-September (reported by Crop Reporting Board) using yields for the July-December 1981 period. Data for 1982 are projected production for July-September 1982 based on 1979-81 average yields per acre and are not official estimates of the Crop Reporting Board. [2]Includes fresh market and processing. [3]May not add to total due to rounding. [4]Percentage figures listed are correct: Production data have been rounded.

Source: Vegetables, SRS, USDA.

about a sixth below. For the year, the index should average about the same as last year to a tenth below. The index average was 135 in 1981.

In contrast, retail prices have averaged substantially higher so far in 1982. Retail prices will decline seasonally during the third quarter, but they could average above last year's 243 (1967=100). Moderating rises in marketing costs and larger-than-average yields may temper the year-to-year price increase. For all of 1982, the retail price index for fresh vegetables will probably be 8 to 20 percent higher than in 1981, when it averaged 263.

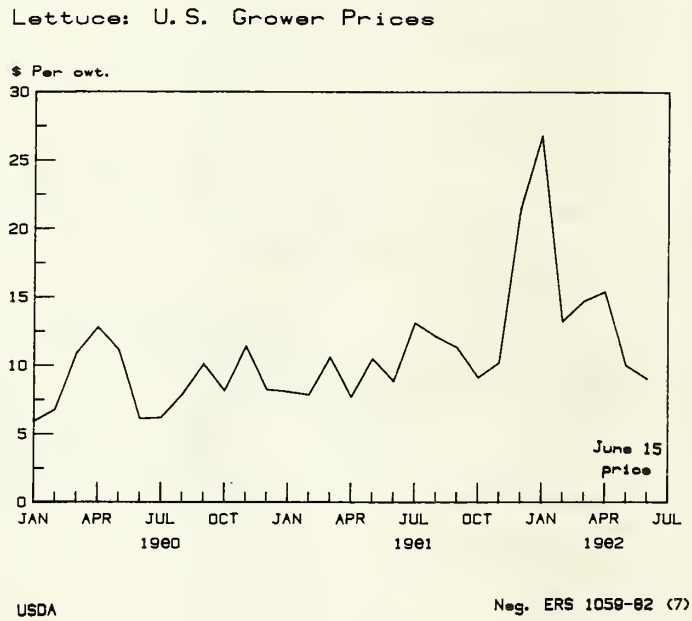
Prospects For Leading Items

Lettuce

Lettuce production during the first half of the year totaled 27.2 million cwt, down 1 percent from 1981. A moderate decline in harvested area was not offset by higher yields. The outturn in California, which produced over three-fifths of the crop, declined because of a sharply lower area. Yields increased despite the whitefly infestation, which curtailed the weights of individual heads. Meanwhile, Arizona, the second largest producer, sharply increased output.

Growers received an average $14.75 per cwt during January-June, a very sharp rise from a year ago. The January price of $26.80 was an alltime high and was caused by reduced acreage in the Imperial Valley and the whitefly problem. Retail prices likewise ballooned, averaging more than one-half greater than in 1981. In June, the retail price index stood at 269.1 (1967=100), compared with 238.7 last year.

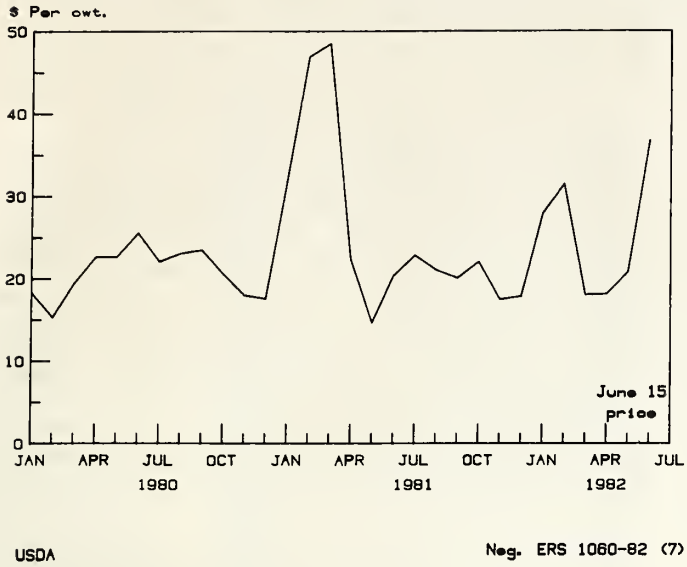
For the summer quarter, the lettuce area for harvest is estimated at 50,500 acres, a year-to-year gain of 2 percent. Based on 1979-81 average yields, production would decline about 3 percent from last year. Lettuce prices are among the most volatile of the vegetable crops, and for the rest of the summer they will depend on weather and the timing of harvests in the major growing areas (California, Colorado, and New York). In mid-July, cartons of two dozen heads of iceberg lettuce were priced at about $6 to $6.50 in California, slightly less than a year ago, but about $3 higher than in June.



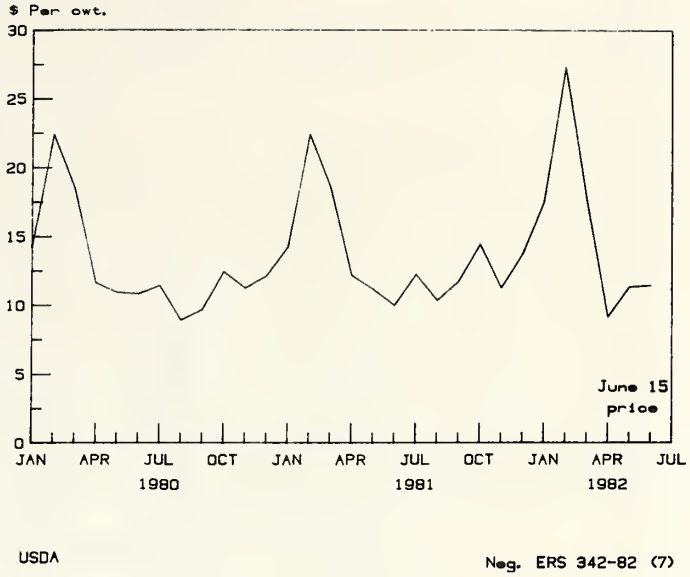
Tomatoes

First-half 1982 tomato production, at 11.4 million cwt, was a tenth larger than a year ago. In Florida, which produced over four-fifths of the crop, output increased 15 percent over the freeze-reduced 1981 total. Although freezes occurred during January 13-14 this year, the important Dade County and Palmetto-Ruskin areas received little damage. Open weather after the freeze and good prices—which caused a greater than normal amount of area to be picked three times or more—were instrumental in the high yields.

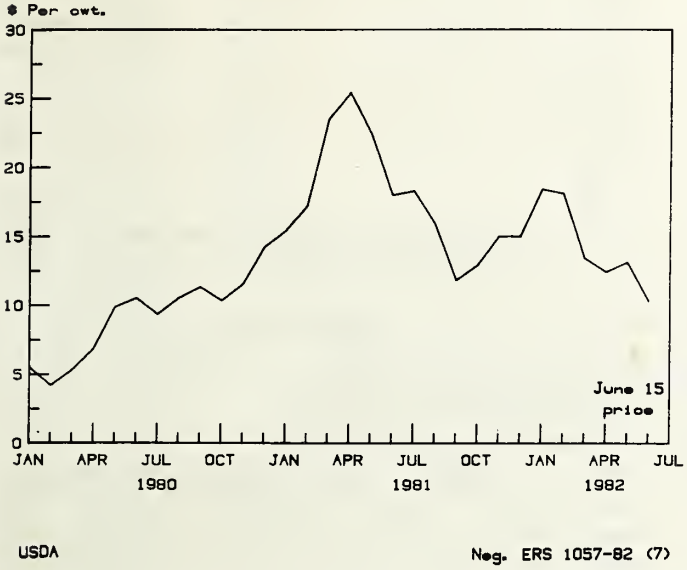
Tomatoes: U. S. Grower Prices



Corn: U. S. Grower Prices



Onions: U. S. Grower Prices



During January-June, farmers received an average $24.80 per cwt, up 10 percent from a year ago. In contrast, retail prices averaged about an eighth lower.

The estimated area for harvest during July-September totals 54,000 acres, up slightly from 1981. Cool weather in early summer slowed crop development in California, Michigan, and New Jersey. Based on 1979-81 average yields, tomato production would decline moderately this summer, compared with a year earlier. At California shipping points in July, 25-pound cartons of mature green tomatoes sold for $5 to $7, down $2 to $3 from last year.

Onions

Substantial increases in both harvested area and yields caused a rise in spring onion production of nearly a fourth relative to last year. Although average farm prices during January-June posted a year-to-year decline of about a third, to $14.17 per cwt, they were still high by historical standards. Retail prices averaged 37 cents a pound, down a seventh from last year.

The area of summer onions for harvest (excluding California's crop, which is primarily for processing) is estimated to be 66,580 acres, 3-1/2 percent more than last year. Summer nonstorage onion output is forecast to rise 1 percent. Hail and high winds in Texas during early summer destroyed some fields and harmed yields in some areas. Meanwhile, with a record-large area of summer storage onions, an alltime-high crop would be attained with average yields. Thus, farm and retail prices will likely average below a year earlier the remainder of the year. Last year's prices were buoyed by strong Japanese export demand.

Sweet Corn

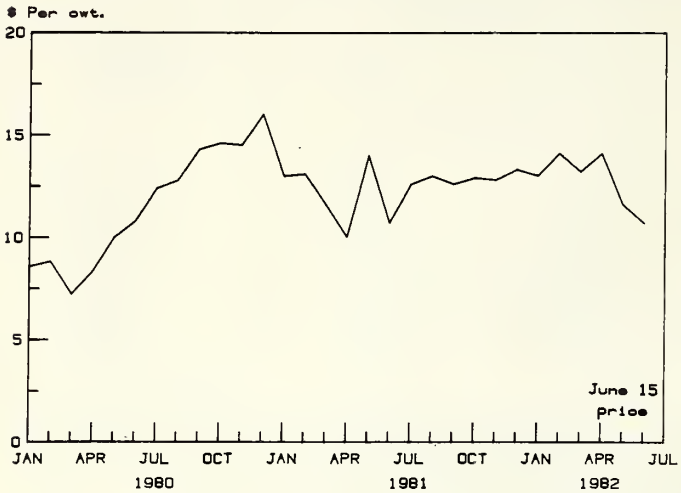
Because of small decreases in the yield and harvested area, sweet corn production during January-June declined slightly from a year ago. Grower prices averaged higher than a year ago early in the year, but then declined to near last year's level in late spring.

Growers intend to harvest 102,200 acres of sweet corn for the fresh market during the summer quarter, 1 percent less than last year. With average yields, production and prices would approximate last year's. In mid-July, a 4-1/2-dozen crate of yellow sweet corn sold for $4.10 in New Jersey, about 50 cents less than last year.

Carrots

Carrot growers are likely to produce substantially more during July-September than they did during 1981. They expect to harvest 23,200 acres (for fresh market and processing), up a sixth from last year. The larger summer output follows a 14-percent year-to-year rise in the first half of 1982. Processor demand to build stocks this summer may be limited in view of their ample holdings of canned and frozen carrots. Grower and retail prices of fresh carrots therefore will probably be stable through second-half 1982, with price drops more likely at the

Carrots: U. S. Grower Prices



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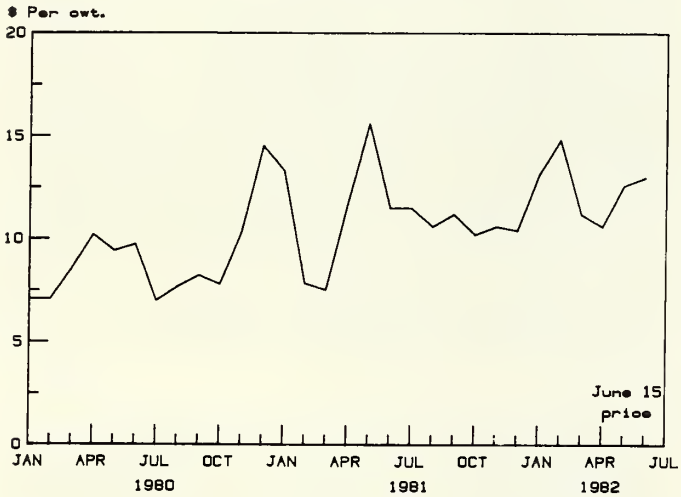
Celery: U. S. Grower Prices



USDA Neg. ERS 1056-82 (7)

grower level. Retail prices averaged 4 percent higher during January-June than a year earlier, while grower prices rose moderately. A sack of 48 1-pound film bags of carrots sold for $4.25 to $5 during July in California, sharply lower than a year ago.

Celery

Although yields equaled last year's, a 6-percent decline in acreage caused a similar fall in celery production during January-June. Grower and retail prices rose over a tenth from a year ago.

For the summer quarter, the celery area for harvest is forecast to rise slightly from last year because of gains in Michigan. This could ease rises in retail prices in the coming months. In mid-July, a crate of 2- to 3-dozen celery stalks wholesaled for $5.20 to $5.40 in California, down about a dollar from 1981. Michigan shippers garnered about $3 a crate more.

Cabbage

Cabbage price increases during first-half 1982 were among the largest of the fresh vegetables. Retail prices averaged 35 cents a pound, over a third higher than in 1981. The June average of 46.5 cents was the highest on record. Shipping point prices were also sharply higher than last year's comparatively low ones.

Although no production estimates are available, cabbage output during January-June probably declined moderately. Shipments from growing areas fell about 4 percent from first-half 1981. Winter-quarter shipments were off by about a tenth. The reduced supplies pushed prices upward. However, the greatest price advances occurred in May and June, when weekly shipments generally ran above last year's. Good quality, strong demand, and seasonally declining supplies likely caused the sharp runups during May-June.

In mid-July, a 1-3/4-bushel crate of cabbage typically traded at $4.60 to $4.80 at East Coast shipping points. This compares with $3 to $3.20 last year.

Melons

The honeydew melon area for harvest during the summer quarter totals 14,200 acres, up nealy a fifth from last year. Meanwhile, California planted 34,600 areas of cantaloups for harvest during summer and early fall, off 6 percent form last year. With larger prospective supplies of honeydews likely offsetting the probable decrease in cantaloup production this summer, prices of melons may average near or below a year ago.

Production of honeydew melons during January-June—all in Texas—was up substantially from a year ago.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Current Situation

Canned Stocks Down; Frozen Holdings Up

With the 1982/83 processed vegetable pack underway, stocks of canned vegetables are below a year ago, while frozen holdings are higher. Total holdings of major canned vegetables are moderately less than a year ago. In general, canners are holding ample retail-sized supplies, while stocks of foodservice packs are tight. Stocks of sweet corn, carrots, and sauerkraut were more than last year, but supplies of tomato products and beets are sharply reduced. Canners have shipped substantially less during 1981/82 because of smaller supplies and lackluster demand.

Frozen vegetable supplies on July 1 totaled 972 million pounds, 4 percent more than last year, but less than average. This is the first time frozen stocks have been above a year ago since July 1980. Also, the April to July change was the smallest seasonal decline in 3 years.

Larger spring broccoli, asparagus, and green pea packs helped cause year-to-year stocks to rise. A slower sales pace due to economic conditions may have also contributed. Of the major items, stocks of lima beans, green beans, and cauliflower are substantially less than last year, while holdings of carrots, corn, broccoli, and onion products are significantly greater.

Table 5—Canned vegetables: Commercial pack and canners' seasonal supply, shipments to latest month, and total seasonal shipments, selected commodities

Commodity and season	Carryovar	Pack	Seasonal supply	Shipments to latest month	Total seasonal shipments
			Million cases 24/303's		
Asparagus					
1976-77	1.1	3.6	4.7	[1]2.4	4.4
1977-78	.3	3.7	4.0	[1]1.4	3.4
1978-79	.6	3.4	4.0	[1]1.4	3.1
1979-80	.9	2.8	3.7	[1]1.2	6.4
1980-81	1.0	2.5	3.5	[1]1.3	2.7
1981-82	.7	2.8	3.5	NA	NA
Beans, lima					
1976-77	1.0	2.8	3.8	[3]2.7	3.2
1977-78	.6	2.7	3.3	[3]2.8	3.0
1978-79	.3	3.4	3.7	[3]2.8	3.2
1979-80	.5	3.1	3.6	[3]2.7	3.0
1980-81	.6	2.8	3.4	2.6	2.8
1981-82	.7	2.6	3.3	2.5	NA
Beans, snap					
1976-77	13.6	47.4	61.0	[3]53.2	55.3
1977-78	5.7	54.5	60.2	[3]52.7	55.2
1978-79	5.0	57.1	62.1	[3]54.6	55.9
1979-80	6.2	66.3	72.5	[3]59.4	61.2
1980-81	11.3	59.7	71.0	[3]54.9	55.1
1981-82	15.9	52.8	68.7	[3]54.9	NA
Beets					
1976-77	5.1	9.2	14.3	[4]9.4	11.8
1977-78	2.6	11.3	13.9	[4]9.6	11.8
1978-79	2.2	12.8	15.0	[4]10.1	12.1
1979-80	2.9	15.0	17.9	[4]9.1	11.2
1980-81	6.7	11.3	18.0	[4]9.8	12.2
1981-82	5.8	9.6	15.4	[4]8.8	NA
Carrots					
1976-77	2.6	5.3	7.9	[4]5.4	6.2
1977-78	1.8	6.0	7.8	[4]5.1	5.6
1978-79	2.1	6.6	8.7	[4]6.0	6.6
1979-80	2.1	6.9	9.0	[4]4.7	5.3
1980-81	3.8	5.1	8.9	[4]5.8	6.8
1981-82	2.3	4.6	6.9	[4]3.8	NA
Sweet corn					
1976-77	9.7	54.7	64.4	[3]51.7	54.7
1977-78	9.7	56.3	66.0	[3]55.2	58.4
1978-79	7.6	57.9	65.5	[3]52.9	55.7
1979-80	9.8	60.0	69.8	[3]56.8	60.2
1980-81	9.6	50.6	60.2	[3]53.7	55.4
1981-82	4.7	57.9	62.6	52.9	NA
Peas, green					
1976-77	8.4	31.9	40.3	[3]32.6	32.6
1977-78	7.7	30.2	37.9	[3]33.6	33.5
1978-79	4.4	25.3	29.7	[3]28.1	28.1
1979-80	1.6	36.5	38.1	[3]31.8	31.8
1980-81	6.2	30.1	36.3	[3]30.1	30.1
1981-82	6.2	27.3	33.5	[3]27.7	27.7

[1]August 1. [3]June 1. [4]April 1. NA = Not available.

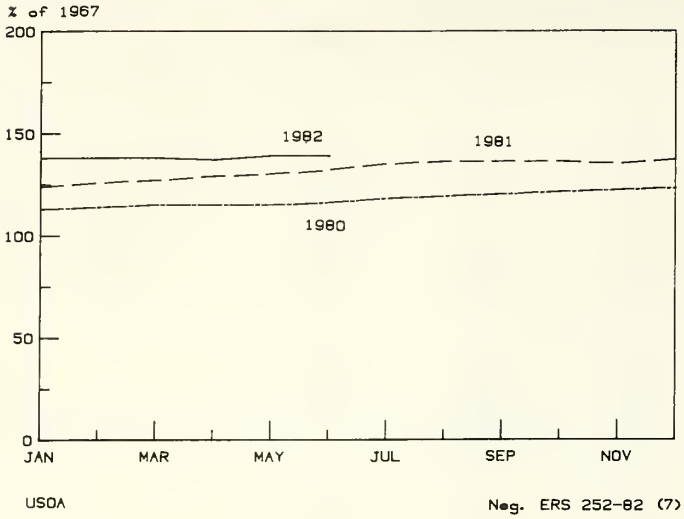
Table 6—Frozen vegetables: United States commercial packs 1980 and 1981, and cold storage holdings, July 1 with comparisons

Commodity	Packs		Cold storage holdings		
	1980	1981	July 1, 1980	July 1, 1981	July 1, 1982[1]
			Million pounds		
Asparagus	11	11	16	12	14
Beans, lima:					
Fordhook	33	21	20	13	5
Baby	53	67	45	15	13
Total	86	88	65	28	18
Beans, snap:					
Regular cut	156	160	59	57	46
French cut	72	79	33	24	21
Wax	9	9	(2)	(2)	(2)
Total	237	248	92	81	67
Broccoli	291	307	107	90	102
Brussels sprouts	63	62	25	27	22
Carrots	191	270	100	64	80
Cauliflower	85	105	41	28	23
Corn, cut	271	314	66	41	40
Corn-on-cob	259	305	85	38	52
Mixed vegetables	(2)	(2)	48	36	39
Mushrooms	15	22	(2)	(2)	(2)
Onions	156	160	26	19	24
Peas	316	334	178	138	144
Peas and carrots	(2)	(2)	11	9	10
Pumpkin and squash	23	38	34	33	32
Rhubarb	8	6	(2)	(2)	(2)
Southern greens[3]	57	66	31	32	31
Spinach	169	184	96	112	111
Okra	42	44	29	21	22
Peas, blackeye	21	33	6	3	6
Miscellaneous vegetables	117	138	133	123	133
Total[4]	2,419	2,736	1,189	935	970
French fried potatoes	3,182	3,578	824	668	780
Other frozen potatoes	671	658	140	125	159
Total frozen potatoes	3,853	4,236	964	793	939
Grand total[4]	6,271	6,972	2,153	1,728	1,909

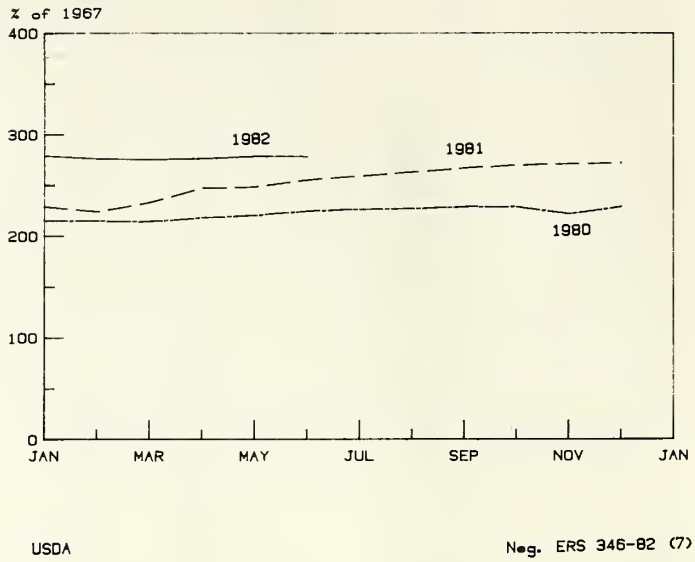
[1]Preliminary. [2]Included in miscellaneous vegetables. [3]Includes collards, kale, mustards, turnips green/turnips. [4]May not add due to rounding.

Sources: Pack data from American Frozen Food Institute. Stocks from Cold Storage, SRS, USDA.

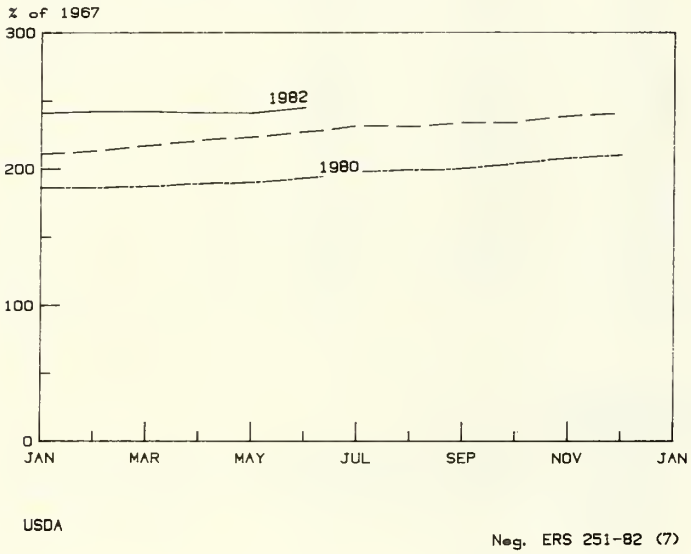
Processed Vegetables BLS Consumer Price Index



Frozen Vegetable BLS-Wholesale Price Index



Canned Vegetable BLS-Wholesale Price



Processed Vegetable Prices Stable

Prices of both canned and frozen vegetables have stabilized in recent months, because of the slowdown in marketing costs so far in 1982 and, probably to a lesser extent, softened demand. The wholesale price index for canned vegetables during June stood at 244.5 (1967=100), up 8 percent from a year ago, but only 2 percent from last November. Meanwhile, the index for frozen vegetables was 277.9 (1967=100), up 9 percent from last year and 3 percent from November. At the retail level, the Consumer Price Index for processed vegetables was 139.3 (1977=100) during June, up 6 percent from 1981, but 1 percent higher than in January.

Through April of this year, food marketing costs averaged 7 percent above the first 4 months of 1981, down from the 12-percent rise measured for the similar period between 1980 and 1981. The farm-to-retail price spread, which reflects food marketing charges, accounts for about 80 percent of the retail prices of processed vegetables.

Outlook

Planted Area of Major Vegetables Increases

Growers and processors of four major vegetables (snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and tomatoes) contracted for and planted 1.28 million acres, 6 percent more than in 1981 and 2-1/2 percent greater than indicated in March. The planted acreage reflects each crop's respective stock position. The contracted area of the three side-dish vegetables increased 2 percent, with a sharp

Table 7—Vegetables for processing: Contract planted acreage, annual 1981 and 1982

Crop	Planted acreage		
	Contract 1981	Contract 1982	1982 as percent of 1981
	1,000 acres		*Percent*
Snap beans	221.5	207.9	94
Green peas	316.3	319.6	101
Sweet corn	419.7	450.5	107
Tomatoes	252.6	306.1	121
Total[1]	1,210.1	1,284.1	106
For freezing:			
Snap beans	56.9	61.6	108
Sweet corn	127.6	156.6	123
Green peas	128.8	152.1	118
For canning:			
Snap beans	164.6	146.4	89
Sweet corn	292.1	293.9	101
Green peas	187.5	167.5	89

[1]May not add to total due to rounding.

Source: Vegetables, SRS, USDA.

expansion in the acreage devoted to frozen vegetables offsetting a moderate decline for canned vegetables. Meanwhile, the processing tomato industry—which accounts for over three-fifths of the total production of the four vegetables—planted more than a fifth larger area.

In March, USDA's Crop Reporting Board published processors' contract intentions for several other vegetable crops. Intentions pointed to slightly higher contract area for lima beans this year, with a 13-percent gain in the area for freezers offsetting an 18-percent decline for canners. With stocks of canned beets on April 7 more than a fifth below last year, canners said they intended to contract for 13 percent more growing area this year. Meanwhile, 2 percent less contracted area was indicated for cucumbers for pickles. Sharply higher sauerkraut stocks caused canners to plan a 10-percent decrease in their contracted cabbage acreage.

[Effective this spring, the Crop Reporting Board eliminated selected portions of its estimating program for processing vegetables. Acreage, yield, production, and value estimates for lima beans, beets, cabbage for kraut, cucumbers for pickles, spinach, and asparagus have been eliminated. However, trade association data, especially with respect to packs and stocks, should minimize the effects of the cutbacks as they pertain to this report. The major effect will be that it is no longer possible to get early estimates of raw tonnage available to processors, upon which forecasts for supply and price conditions before harvest are made.]

Wet Spring Affects This Year's Crops

Rainy weather this spring in some major processing-vegetable areas could affect the size of this year's harvests. Northern California and its processing-tomato crop appear to be the most seriously affected. Heavy rainfall in late 1981 delayed field preparation, and early spring rains delayed planting. This could increase crop abandonment and decrease yields. However, the rains and increased snowmelt caused a larger runoff in the Sacramento and San Joaquin basins. This provided ample water supplies for irrigation.

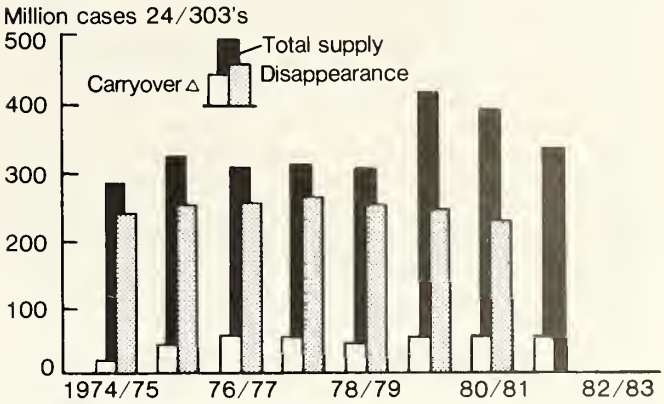
Planting progress in Wisconsin and Minnesota was delayed because of damp conditions in May. Also, growing-degree days were below normal through mid-July, when hot and humid weather prevailed in the Upper Midwest. In Washington, later-planted crops suffered from a hot June, although rain and cooler temperatures in early July were helpful. Similar conditions prevailed in Oregon, where sweet corn development was slow.

As of July 1, the Crop Reporting Board rated crop prospects (relative conditions or prospects as indicated by reports from correspondents on all crops) as good to excellent in California, Oregon, the eastern Cornbelt, and New York. Meanwhile, prospects in Minnesota and Washington were considered fair.

Vegetable Price Increases To Be Moderate

Despite the relatively small supplies of canned and frozen vegetables, the retail price index for processed vegetables barely increased between March and June. Price rises at the wholesale level have also been slight. Because vegetable shipments typically are below last year's pace, weakened demand apparently is limiting

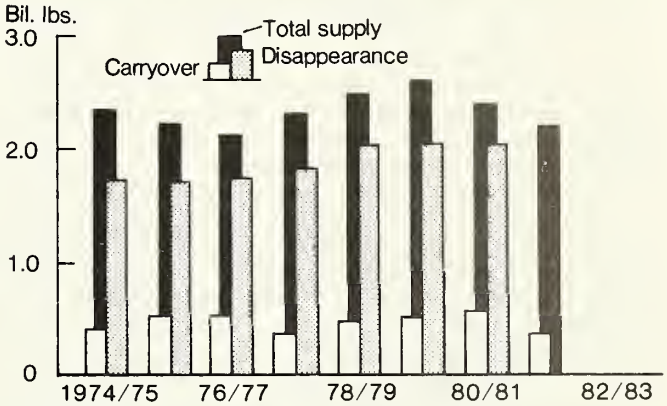
Total Supply and Disappearance of Seven Canned Vegetables *



* Lima beans, snap beans, beets, sauerkaut, sweet corn, green peas and tomato products.
△ Carryover excludes distnbutor's stocks.

USDA Neg. ERS 814-82 (7)

Total Supply and Disappearance of Seven Frozen Vegetables*



* Lima beans, snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, spinach, broccoli and carrots.

USDA Neg.ERS 813-82 (7)

price increases. The recent tax cut and increase in government transfer payments, as well as the expected upturn in economic conditions during second-half 1982, could spur an increase in per capita disposable income. This may translate into larger sales, placing upward pressure on prices.

Based on the planted areas, the pack of side-dish canned vegetables will likely be moderately to substantially reduced. This indicates possible price runups for some items during second-half 1982, especially if sales pick up from the current slow pace. Prices for canned tomato products will be affected by the extent to which a prospective increase in raw tonnage offsets the sharply curtailed carryin. For frozen items, the increased acreage indicates a rise in production to offset the lower carryin. This should rein in the sharp, although moderating, price increases for frozen vegetables over the past year.

The easing of gains in marketing costs will also temper price increases for processed vegetables. The farm-to-retail price spread for all foods is expected to increase 6

to 7 percent this year, the smallest annual rise since 1977. A new contract between California cannery workers and operators was settled during June, but details of the collective bargaining agreement were not announced.

In summary, a possible rise in demand for processed vegetables because of increased consumer incomes, coupled with the likelihood of reduced canned vegetable supplies, could cause price increases during the rest of the year. However, because of reduced marketing costs and prospective ample supplies of frozen vegetables, any increases should be moderate. For all of 1982, the retail price index for processed vegetables should average 6 to 11 percent above 1981. The index increased 12 percent last year.

Prospects For Leading Items

Tomato Products

April 1 estimates for stocks of tomato products indicated sharp decreases from a year earlier. Shipments, like stocks, were down, but by a lesser degree. Stock data for the leading items registered the following decreases: canned tomatoes, 14 percent; tomato juice, 31 percent; tomato catsup (6/10's or larger), 50 percent; and tomato paste (nonconsumer type), 62 percent.

Reduced stocks and shipments affected prices. The June wholesale price index (1967=100), at 240.0 for canned tomatoes, remained substantially higher than in 1981. In June, the index for tomato catsup stood at 280.6, down only slightly from the record 282.4 set in March. The price increases were part of a 3-year trend: Prices spiraled upwards as production fell.

The 1982 crop promises to be sharply larger than the previous one. For the nation as a whole, contracted processed tomato acreage is forecast at 306,140, compared with 252,610 in 1981. Preliminary forecasts place contracted tonnage at 7,497,740, 33 percent above a year earlier. However, it would require a record-high acreage yield of 24.5 tons an acre to achieve that total. The current high is 23.61 tons in 1980.

California, the leading producer of processed tomatoes, expects a sharply larger crop, despite bad weather. California processors, given average yields, intend to pack 6.45 million tons of tomatoes during the upcoming season. Planting in northern California got off to a late start because of heavy rainfall this spring. In the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys and on the central coast, torrential rains in March and April delayed planting. Above-average rainfall through the first half of July was still occurring. As a result, much replanting had to be done, and a higher proportion of the crop than normal will be harvested in October. Rain also interrupted harvesting in July. Therefore, it is possible that processors will not attain the tonnage they have indicated. Total U.S. tonnage will probably range from 6.5 to 7.5 million tons. California weather during September and October will be crucial in determining the final outcome.

The pack for 1982/83 likely will be 10 to 20 percent greater for all items. The pack gains will compensate for sharply smaller carryovers, likely leaving supplies about even with to slightly higher than last year. The increase in supplies will likely soften prices.

Imports of processed tomatoes are up sharply from 1981, on the heels of two consecutive declines in the U.S. processing-tomato crop. Total imports of canned tomatoes during the first 5 months of 1982 amounted to 36,798 metric tons, a jump of 193 percent from 1981. Italy, at 16,163 tons, remains the leading foreign supplier. During January-May, imports of tomato paste soared 587 percent above the comparable period a year earlier. Taiwan was the major source of tomato paste imports. Imports of tomato sauce through May of 1982 were up 282 percent, with Israel supplying almost all of the total. The European nations (France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Spain) expect a 7-percent increase in their 1982 processed-tomato crop.

Sweet Corn

Canned sweet corn stocks through May 1 totaled 14.51 million cases (basis 24/303's), up 45 percent from a year earlier, with retail-size cases especially high. In contrast, foodservice stocks (6/10's) were virtually nonexistent as the marketing season drew to a close. Between July 1981 and May 1982, shipments slowed, down 4 percent from a year earlier. The large 1981/82 pack, together with sluggish demand, are factors that explain the abundance of shelf-size canned corn.

Wholesale prices reflect the ample stocks. Although the June wholesale price index for whole kernel corn has advanced slightly in response to end-of-the-season trends, at 214.0 (1967=100), it remains moderately below a year earlier. Canners' prices for whole kernel corn also declined from last season. During the first week in July, prices for 24/303's were between $7.75 and $8.25, compared with $8.75 a year earlier. The institutional pack traded at $12.50 (Fancy whole kernel)—prices effective with new-pack shipments. The price a year earlier was quoted at $11.25.

Contracted acreage for canned sweet corn is estimated at 293,880, up 1 percent from 1981. Given good yields and a high carryover, the increased acreage likely could cause as rise of up to a tenth in the 1982/83 total supply from the previous marketing year. Ample supplies could keep wholesale and canner prices slightly below those a year earlier. It is likely that a larger portion of the pack will be devoted to foodservice sizes.

Frozen corn stocks show a mixed performance. On July 1, stocks of cut corn, at 40 million pounds, were down 3 percent from 1981. Cob corn, however, rose 36 percent above a year earlier. Total frozen corn stocks were well below normal.

Cut corn prices were firm in early July; 24 10-ounce cartons were quoted between $7.80 and $8.25, compared with $6.70 to $7.50 a year earlier. Cob corn (12 4-ear packages) ranged between $9.88 and $10.35, up substantially from 1981. Most trading was at the lower price; nevertheless, this is a substantial increase from last year's $8.76 to $9.28.

The forecast for frozen corn's contracted acreage indicates a 23-percent increase. It is likely that both the cob and cut corn packs will share in the increased tonnage, as cut corn stocks are well below historical levels and because of the increased popularity of cob corn the past several years. Total frozen corn supplies will likely be sharply increased this year. The prospects for the upcoming 1982/83 pack could ease the wholesale and retail price increases of cut corn and keep corn on the cob rises moderate.

Peas

The May 1 estimate of canned pea stocks (24/303 basis) revealed an 11-percent dip from a year earlier. At the last report, stocks totaled 8.18 million cases. Ship-

ments from June 1, 1981, to May 1, 1982, were 7 percent below 1980/81. The BLS wholesale price index for June, at 199.6 (1967=100), registered a moderate decline from a year earlier. However, in terms of historical averages, the index shows June 1982 prices still well above previous years' levels.

Preliminary planting estimates indicate that 167,470 acres were contracted for canned peas, down 11 percent from 1981. Thus, with a sharply reduced carryover, and with acreage down, it is likely the total supply will be a fifth to a fourth less than a year earlier. Canned prices should remain firm and perhaps could even match the levels set during 1980/81.

On July 1, frozen stocks, at 144.1 million pounds, were up 4 percent from 1981. June prices for frozen peas, as given by the wholesale price index, hit record levels. The index stood at 310.2 (1967=100), sharply above a year ago.

The outlook for 1982/83 indicates that the pack should be above last year. The contracted acreage for freezing is estimated at 152,080, 18 percent above a year earlier. Given good weather and yields, this increase in acreage, together with the rise in cold storage stocks, will ensure a greater supply of frozen peas. This should moderate the sharp year-to-year price gains of the past year.

Snap Beans

As of May 1, stocks of canned snap beans were down 8 percent from a year earlier. There were 18.69 million cases (basis 24/303's) on hand, but shipments were off 4 percent through May. Despite reduced stocks, the wholesale price index for canned beans keeps slipping with each monthly report. The June index, at 187.1 (1967=100), was down moderately from a year earlier, probably because of sluggish demand.

There is every indication that the 1982/83 supply will be significantly shorter than last year. As noted, stocks are down. In addition, the contracted acreage for canned beans is estimated at 146,360, substantially below a year earlier. With a smaller supply for 1982/83, prices will likely revive later in the year, reversing their present downward trend.

Stocks of frozen beans, regular and French style, are still substantially below year-ago levels but are above 1977-80. On July 1, there were 46.4 million pounds of regular and 21 million of French-style green beans in cold storage. In mid-July, prices for frozen beans, (24 9-ounce cartons) ran from $7.50 to $7.95 a case for both French and regular, compared with $7.10 to $7.50 a year earlier. Institutional prices were posted between 45 and 50 cents a pound for 12 2-1/2-pound cartons and were moderately above last year.

The outlook is for ample frozen green bean supplies. A larger pack is in prospect because freezers have contracted for 61,580 acres, moderately more than a year earlier and the largest amount since 1979. If yields and quantities packed per ton are normal, supplies would increase slightly from last year. If so, price increases will likely follow marketing-cost trends.

Asparagus

On July 1, frozen asparagus stocks totaled 14 million pounds, up sharply from 1981. Cold storage stocks from March to June climbed 413 percent, reflecting the seasonal production and diversion to freezers.

Freezing has been completed in California, with the trade estimating output at 4.5 million pounds. Michigan growers delivered 16 million pounds to processors this season, up 36 percent from a year ago. Asparagus for freezing nearly doubled. The price for frozen 24 10-ounce cartons of medium spears was quoted at $37.85 in mid-July, approximately $6 above a year earlier.

Broccoli

The California spring pack through June 1 was up 9 percent over the previous year, with packing still in progress. The larger 1982 pack is reflected in cold storage stocks. The July 1 report indicated that stocks of frozen broccoli spears, at 43.5 million pounds, were slightly above the previous year's total and sharply above March. California growers this spring increased production for the fresh market and for processing by 6 percent from last year.

Wholesale prices have been steady. In early July, cartons of 24 10-ounce broccoli spears were sold for $10.40 to $10.55, compared with $9.95 to $10.05 a year earlier. Cut and chopped broccoli traded moderately higher than a year earlier.

During the summer quarter, growers are expected to harvest 18,000 acres of broccoli for the fresh market and for processing. This suggests increased diversion of broccoli to freezers in the coming months. Ample frozen stocks should steady prices during second-half 1982.

Cauliflower

A decrease of nearly a tenth in the production of cauliflower during January-June has resulted in a sharply reduced frozen spring pack as of July 1. Heavy spring rains and wet field conditions delayed harvesting and substantially cut back yields.

Cold storage stocks on July 1 totaled 23.1 million pounds, a substantial drop from a year earlier. Cartons of 24 10-ounce packages retailed at $11.30 to $11.80 in early July, compared with $10.45 to $10.60 in 1981. West Coast f.o.b. prices for foodservice cartons, at 62 to 65 cents a pound, were somewhat above last year. The short stock position indicates that frozen cauliflower prices could advance in the coming months.

Spinach

California canners expect another year of below-normal supplies. The pack this year is estimated at 557,000 cases of 24/300-303's, down 11 percent from 1981. The supply, at 899,000 cases, is off 18 percent from a year earlier. Institutional sizes did little better; the 1982 pack declined 40 percent from a year earlier, and the supply dropped 41 percent. Prices reflect this situation. In early July, cases of 24/303's sold for $8.40, compared with $7.45 a year earlier. Foodservice prices were $9.85 per 6/10 case.

July 1 stocks of frozen spinach were 1 percent below a year earlier. California's spring pack through June 1 dipped 20 percent below a year earlier. In early July, retail prices for 24 10-ounce cartons were firm at $5.90 to $6 a case, compared with $5.65 to $5.75 last year. Foodservice cartons of chopped and leaf spinach were unchanged from a year earlier.

POTATOES

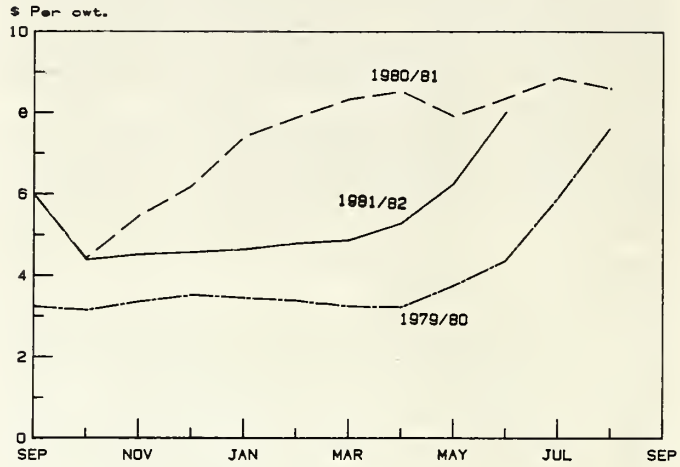
Current Situation

Prices Still Up

Although farm and retail prices for potatoes have slipped below last year's record highs, they remain well above the 1977-81 mean. Strong processor demand to rebuild frozen potato stocks, together with reduced supplies of spring table-stock potatoes from Kern County, California, helped keep prices fairly firm. Mid-July grower prices averaged $7.93 per cwt, compared with $9.81 a year earlier. Farmers received $6.52 per cwt for the second quarter, up 37 percent over the first quarter, but down a fourth from the comparable period in 1981.

Retail prices also were below the previous year's levels. In June, the Consumer Price Index (1967=100) for fresh potatoes was 344.9, down substantially from a year earlier.

Potatoes: U. S. Grower Price *



* Crop year.

USDA Neg. ERS 3073-82 (7)

Spring Production Down Slightly

The 1982 spring crop, at 20,243 cwt, was down slightly from 1981. Dry winds in California were the primary cause of this decline. The average yield for the spring crop, at 260 cwt an acre, was only slightly lower than the record high of the previous year.

California, the major producer of spring potatoes, experienced acreage, yield, and production declines. An estimated 25,500 acres were harvested, compared with 26,400 in 1981. The yield per acre was 20 cwt less than a year earlier, as hot, dry winds swept through the Kern District in early April. The result was a 8-percent drop in production from the previous year. Florida, the other leading producer of spring potatoes, indicated that output from the Hastings area was 3 percent above a year earlier. The rise in production was attributed to a corresponding increase in acreage, rather than yield, which declined slightly from 1981.

F.o.b. prices for spring potatoes followed the general trend—down from the previous year's level, but other-

Table 8—Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale prices at New York and Chicago, U.S. No. 1, indicated periods 1981 and 1982

Item	State	Week ended					
		1981			1982		
		May 9	June 6	July 11	May 8	June 5	July 10
	Dollars per cwt.						
F.o.b. shipping points							
Kern County							
Long Whites	California	11.38	10.80	11.00	—	9.38	7.42
Klamath Basin							
Russets	Washington	16.00	—	—	14.50	—	—
Southern points							
Round Reds	Arizona	11.50	—	—	—	—	—
Round Whites	N. Florida	6.00	12.70	—	5.00	11.38	—
		Tuesday nearest mid-month					
		1981			1982		
.sp .2		May 12	June 16	July 7	May 11	June 15	July 6
		Dollars per cwt.					
Terminal markets							
New York							
Long Whites	California	—	20.50	20.00	—	19.00	18.00
Katahdin, 2" min.	Maine	13.50	—	—	9.30	11.00	13.00
Chicago							
Long Whites	California	—	17.50	—	20.00	16.00	15.00

Source: F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Market prices are for Tuesday of each week, and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of AMS.

Table 9—Irish potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, selected seasons, 1980, 1981, and indicated 1982

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	1980	1981	1982[1]	1980	1981	1982[1]	1980	1981	1982[1]
	1,000 acres			*Cwt.*			*Million cwt.*		
Winter	11.5	11.6	11.3	205	189	205	2.36	2.20	2.32
Spring	71.6	78.0	78.0	238	266	260	17.07	20.76	20.24
Summer	90.1	95.0	96.0	189	211	203	17.00	20.04	19.51
Total	173.2	184.6	185.3	210	233	227	36.43	43.00	42.07

[1]Revised.

Source: Crop Production, SRS, USDA.

wise firm. The price for a 100-pound sack of long white potatoes from the Kern District was $7.20 in early July, compared with $11 a year earlier. North Carolina prices for round whites, on the other hand, showed a less dramatic decline. The f.o.b. price per cwt was $9.50, down moderately from 1981.

Summer-Crop Forecast Down Slightly

The 1982 summer potato crop is estimated at 19.5 million cwt, the second smallest on record. Only the 1980 crop was smaller—at 17 million cwt. The harvested area was up 1 percent from 1981 and 7 percent above 1980. The yield is expected to average 203 cwt an acre, compared with 211 a year earlier and 189 in 1980.

The North Atlantic and Southeastern States anticipate reduced output this year. Virginia, one of the chief producers in the East, was hit by excessive rains. That State's production expectations, at 2.21 million cwt, are down moderately because the yield has fallen substantially from a year earlier. The California crop, however, appears to be doing well, despite a late harvest. The crop is forecast at 3.07 million cwt, 4 percent above 1981. Elsewhere, the Midwestern States reported good crop progress, particularly in Ohio and Indiana, while some of the crop in the Southwest was damaged by hail.

F.o.b. prices for summer potatoes are down moderately from a year earlier. Fifty-pound sacks of round white potatoes from the Eastern Shore of Virginia were quoted at $3 in mid-July, compared with $4.70 a year earlier.

Frozen Stocks Continue To Advance

As of July 1, stocks of frozen potatoes were up 18 percent from a year earlier and 11 percent from March 31. French fry stocks totaled 779.9 million pounds, compared with 667.5 million a year earlier. Other frozen potato stocks amounted to 159.4 million pounds, a sharp increase from a year earlier. The larger 1981 fall potato crop and ensuing lower prices encouraged the rebuilding of stocks, which were reduced by the small 1980 outturn.

Increased supplies of frozen potatoes have pushed prices down from those during the earlier part of 1982, but prices remain virtually unchanged from a year ago. In early July, Idaho Fancy long french fries were trading at 30 cents a pound. In Maine, the same variety went at 27-1/2 cents a pound. The eastern retail pack shows 12 2-pound packages of french fries selling for $9.80 (Grade A), unchanged from a year earlier. Western freezers quote prices for the same item at $10.79 per 12 2-pound packs, unchanged from April, but substantially more than a year earlier. Consumers, on the other hand, were paying 68 cents a pound in June, 7 cents above a year earlier.

Table 10—Potato exports[1]

Crop year Oct.-Sept.	Dehydrated	Fresh	Total	Percent of crop
		Mil. cwt		
1974/75	1.7	4.0	5.7	2%
1975/76	10.6	10.6	21.2	7%
1976/77	15.7	10.3	26.0	7%
1977/78	6.6	3.5	10.1	3%
1978/79	8.2	2.9	11.1	3%
1979/80	5.7	1.8	7.5	2%
1980/81	3.6	2.8	6.4	2%
1981/82[2]	3.7	1.1	4.8	1%

[1]Fresh weight basis. [2]October thru May.

Foreign Trade

During October 1981-June 1982, U.S. fresh potato exports declined 10 percent from the comparable period a year earlier. Canada took the largest share, totaling 82 percent of all U.S. foreign sales, or 61,476 metric tons. Exports to Canada have increased over last season.

Exports of all processed potatoes increased this year. Total exports of frozen french fries were up substantially from the previous season. Japan, the leading importer of U.S. french fries, took 26,137 tons, 25 percent more than a year earlier. Exports of potato flakes and granules rose 1 percent, totaling 24,584 tons. Again, Japan is the major buyer, with 68 percent of total sales. However, overall Japanese potato imports were slightly above a year earlier. A substantially larger Japanese crop is expected in 1982, which could dampen U.S. export prospects. The European Community (EC), another important importer of potato flakes and granules, decreased its purchases moderately. However, a smaller 1982 crop could result in increased EC imports.

On the import side, Canada continues to be the chief foreign supplier of fresh potatoes to the United States. Canadian exports of white table potatoes to the United States presently amount to 81,175 tons, 17 percent above a year earlier. During October 1981-May 1982, seed potato imports from Canada totaled 54,307 tons, down substantially from the comparable period a year earlier. Canadian exports to the United States likely could

remain at current levels, because the 1982 Canadian crop is forecast just slightly under a year ago. The International Trade Commission (ITC) currently is investigating the allegations made by Maine producers that Canadian imports have seriously damaged the potato industry in that State. The ITC will report its findings to the President on August 15, but it will not itself make any recommendations.

Outlook

Fall Production To Be Up Moderately

It is estimated that 1.10 million acres of fall potatoes will be harvested this year, up 5 percent from 1981. As a result, fall potato production—which accounts for 85 to 90 percent of the annual U.S. outturn—will likely increase 4 to 6 percent from last year to over 300 million cwt. This would be the largest output since 1978.

Harvested acreage in the Eastern States is up 4 percent over last year's small crop, with all leading producing States indicating increases. Maine and New York show a combined increase of 2 percent, accounting for 151,000 of the total 185,000 eastern acres. In July, the Maine crop was under stress because of dry conditions. Pennsylvania's acreage rose 19 percent.

The 1982 harvested acreage for the Central States is forecast at 318,000, 8 percent above 1981. South Dakota and Wisconsin expect their acreage to be the largest since the early 1950's. Michigan and North Dakota also anticipate notable gains.

In the Western States, fall potato acreage is forecast at 598,000, 4 percent above 1981. Idaho, the Nation's leading producer, expects to harvest 342,000 acres in 1982, a 5-percent jump from a year earlier. All other Western States, with the exception of Oregon and Wyoming, expect acreage gains.

Prices

With prospects of a larger potato crop this year, prices through at least early 1983 should average less than a year earlier. Although production will probably only increase moderately, the stable nature of potato use will likely cause lower prices. In addition, prices have been typically low when fall production has totaled about 300 million pounds or more. From 1976 to 1979, the fall potato crop ranged from 296 to 324 million pounds. Season-average prices to farmers during that period were from $3.38 per cwt to $3.59, in sharp contrast with the much higher ones for 1980 and 1981 crops. With a 300-million-pound outturn quite probable this fall, substantial price declines could result.

From the demand side, a pickup in the general economy and in away-from-home eating may increase the movement of frozen potato products. Such an occurrence would help prop up potato prices, as freezers rebuild or maintain their holdings. However, the large stocks processors now hold may dampen their demand.

SWEETPOTATOES

Harvested Area Up; Grower Prices Down

Estimates of the 1982 harvested acreage for sweetpotatoes indicate a 4-percent increase over 1981. Total acreage is forecast at 114,000, compared with 109,300 a year earlier. All major producing States anticipate acreage gains. North Carolina expects to harvest 41,000 acres, a 5-percent hike over last year. Louisiana, the second largest producer at 27,000 acres, also anticipates a larger area for harvest. California's area increased slightly from a year earlier.

In July, the average farm price of sweetpotatoes was $17.40 per cwt, compared with $21.80 a year earlier. During the second week in July, f.o.b. prices for a 50-pound carton of U.S. No. 1 Porto Rico sweetpotatoes were $9.25 in eastern North Carolina, virtually unchanged since late May.

Trade data placed the 1981/82 sweetpotato pack at 7.95 million cases (basis 24/303's), up 34 percent from a year earlier, but sharply less than in 1980/81. The April 1 supply, however, was down 1 percent from the previous year. Canners are expecting to enter 1982/83 with a higher carryover than last year's extreme low, but stocks will still be below 1980/81.

Shipments up to April 1 continued sharply down from last marketing year. June wholesale prices of canned whole sweetpotatoes packed in sirup (24/303's) were $12.50 a case, compared with $11 a year earlier. Although the carryover will likely be above a year earlier, canners' ending stocks still will be relatively tight. Hence, processors' need to ensure adequate stocks could buoy prices.

Although a larger crop is forecast, for the rest of the year prices will likely remain fairly firm at both the grower and wholesale levels. Grower prices should contin-

Table 11—Sweetpotatoes: Representative wholesale price (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago for stocks of generally good merchantable quality and condition (U.S. No. 1, when available) indicated periods, 1981 and 1982

Item	State of origin	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
		1981			1982		
		May 19	June 16	July 14	May 18	June 15	July 13
		Dollars per 50 lb. container					
Terminal markets							
New York							
Porto Rico, cured	North Carolina	19.50	22.00	—	11.50	13.00	11.50
Chicago							
Porto Rico, cured	Louisiana	18.25	—	—	13.00	—	—

Source: Prices submitted for Tuesday of each week by the Market News representative at New York and Chicago.

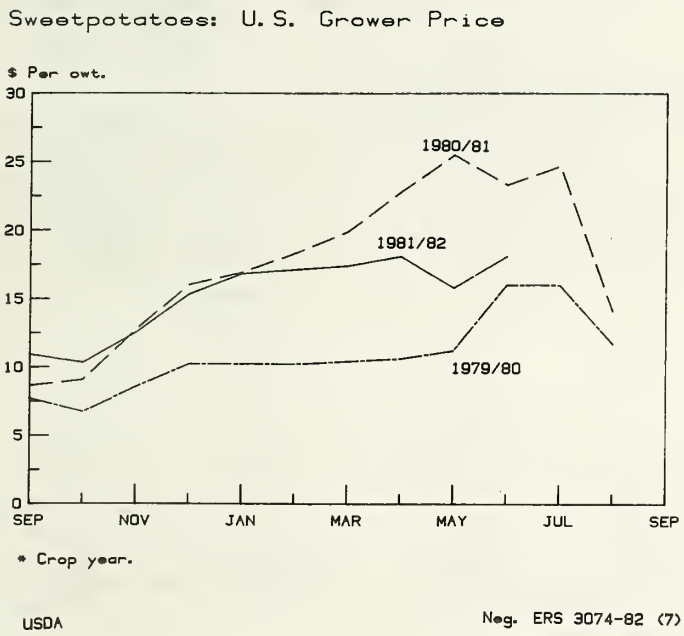
ue below the previous year's highs, but they will be above 1980. Wholesale prices of canned sweetpotatoes in the coming months will likely remain higher than a year ago, as processors facing light carryovers replenish supplies.

Table 12—Sweetpotatoes: Harvested acreage by State, United States, 1980, 1981 and indicated 1982

State and area	1980	1981	Indicated 1982[1]	1982 as percentage of 1981
	1,000 acres			*Percent*
New Jersey	2.4	2.5	2.9	116
Maryland	1.3	1.3	1.3	100
Virginia	2.4	2.5	2.9	116
Central Atlantic	6.1	6.3	7.1	113
North Carolina	37.0	39.0	41.0	105
South Carolina	2.5	3.5	4.5	129
Georgia	4.5	5.6	6.0	107
Lower Atlantic	44.0	48.0	51.5	107
Tennessee	2.0	1.8	2.0	111
Alabama	5.3	5.4	5.5	102
Mississippi	4.6	5.2	5.0	96
Arkansas	.6	—	—	—
Louisiana	25.0	26.0	27.0	104
Texas	6.5	7.8	7.2	92
Central	44.0	46.2	46.7	101
California	8.4	8.9	9.2	106
United States	102.5	109.4	114.5	105

[1]Indicated as of June 1.

Source: Acreage, SRS, USDA.



MUSHROOMS

Grower Prices Improve from First Quarter

Grower prices perked up during the second quarter of 1982. At Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, prices averaged 62 to 68 cents a pound for fresh No. 1 clean-cut mushrooms in bulk for repacking. While the range remained unchanged from the first quarter, the average price rose from 62 cents (during January, February, and March) to 68 cents, with top prices going to 70 cents a pound. However, grower prices were still down slightly from the comparable period a year earlier. Prices for clean-cut No. 1 mushrooms in bulk for processing followed the same trend—up over the first quarter, but still down from 1981. Meanwhile, the wholesale price index for canned mushrooms declined during the second quarter. During April-June, the index averaged 182.9 (December 1967=100), compared with 190.5 during the first quarter. The second-quarter average price was down 7 percent from the previous year. This rather unusual situation (higher grower prices, lower wholesale prices) can be partially explained by the continuing influx of processed foreign imports.

June retail prices for fresh mushrooms, at 1.92 a pound, were up substantially over a year earlier. The hike in retail prices was fueled by the increasing demand for mushrooms and a simultaneous decline in the number of mushroom growers. Growers are caught in a structural change in the industry. Many have not coped with the switchover from processed to fresh. Thus, many are going out of business, while others find it difficult to produce quality fresh mushrooms.

Import Battle Continues

The mushroom war rages on, with the battle centering around canned imports from the People's Republic of China. Two factors have contributed to the rapid expansion of China's share of the U.S. mushroom market: (1) the extension of most-favored-nation tariff rates on February 1, 1980, and (2) a concerted effort by the Chinese Government to acquire foreign exchange, especially by price cutting and increasing investment in the mushroom industry.

In late June, the American Mushroom Institute (AMI) filed a petition with the ITC against Chinese imports. Claiming Chinese mushroom imports harmed domestic production, the AMI is urging that the ITC recommend

Table 13—Canned mushroom imports, total and selected countries, indicated period

Countries	July-May 1980-1981	July-May 1981-1982
	Million pounds	
China, Peoples' Republic of	15.2	20.6
China, Republic of (Taiwan)	20.9	20.8
Hong Kong	13.5	15.7
Korea, Republic of	6.0	2.9
World Total	59.0	61.2

to the President a quantitative restriction that will remedy the current alleged market disruptions caused by Chinese imports of processed mushrooms. The institute also desires that Section 406 of the Trade Act of 1974 be interpreted to mean that Chinese imports could be curtailed if it is found that the imports are indeed injurious to the U.S. processing industry.

Outlook

The supply of canned mushrooms will likely remain ample, given the availability of foreign supplies. Therefore, wholesale prices of canned mushrooms could stay below a year ago. Fresh prices will likely remain at recent levels as growers continue to adjust to market conditions.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Current Situation

Prices Continue Down

Grower prices continue to trend downward, in contrast with the normal seasonal pattern. Heavy production in 1981, substantial stocks, and prospects for reduced exports are the reasons behind the drop. From May to June alone, the average grower price slipped 9 percent. The July 1982 price averaged $17.50 per cwt; the price a year earlier was $35.40. Overall market activity remains subdued, both on the domestic and foreign fronts.

Planted Area Down Substantially

Farmers responded to lower prices and a sluggish market this spring by cutting back planted acreage 17 percent. (In February, growers indicated a 5-percent decrease in area.) In 1982, 1.92 million acres of dry beans were planted, compared with 2.32 million in 1981 and 1.88 million in 1980. With the exception of California, all major bean-producing States planted fewer acres this year. Michigan, the leading producer, reported that 570,000 were planted, compared with 650,000 in 1981 and 590,000 in 1980. North Dakota's acreage is down 26 percent; Idaho has 42 percent less acres; Colorado's acreage is down 10 percent; and Nebraska's shrunk 7 percent. California, on the other hand, had an increase of 8 percent over 1981, possibly because of its production mix.

Beans by Selected Variety

Although Michigan's planted acreage is down from a year earlier, activity in the navy bean market is seasonal, and demand is drooping. The new crop is completely planted, and soil moisture so far is adequate. It is difficult to determine the precise number of acres planted to each variety, but the substantial drop in acreage possibly arises more from last year's overproducton of pinto beans than from a significant reduction in pea beans. Prices are down sharply from 1981 and show no sign of seasonal improvement. As of July 12, f.o.b. prices for Michigan pea beans were $26 to $27 per cwt, compared with $37 to $40 a year earlier. The domestic and foreign markets for pea beans were fairly quiet. The quality of the old crop is being offered as an explanation of dull domestic prices, while the strong dollar discourages exports.

Pinto and black turtle beans probably will show the most dramatic decline in price and output in 1982. F.o.b. prices, at $13 to $15 during the third week of July, were down sharply from 1981 and 1980. All shipments to Mexico have been completed, and no new contracts have been negotiated. Mexico contracted for 375,000 metric tons from last year's dry bean crop—mostly pinto and black turtle beans. Mexico's purchases represented one-fourth of U.S. production.

Idaho and Nebraska, the leading producers of Great Northerns, also cut back acreage, so it is likely that this year's supply will be down substantially. F.o.b. prices for Great Northerns are sharply below 1981. Prices through the third week in July were $22 to $23 per cwt, compared with $36 to $39 a year earlier.

California's increase in bean acreage likely is due to its production mix. Lima beans, a California speciality, will possibly be in good supply this year. Prices for large and baby limas are down from 1981, but they are in line with

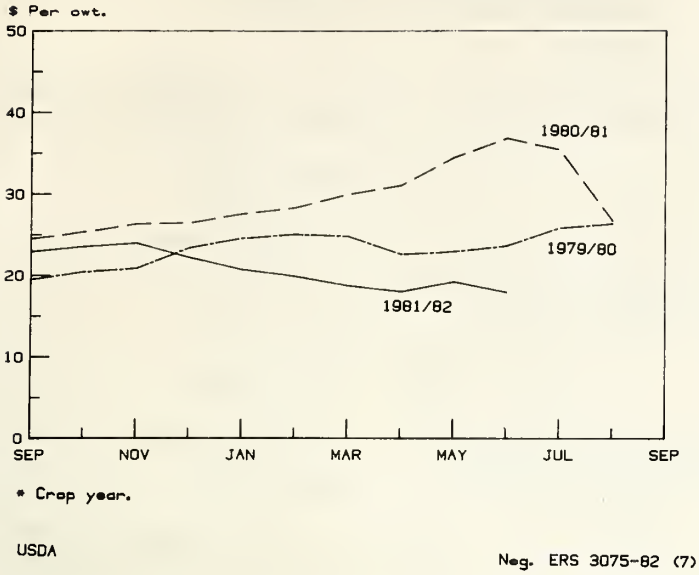
Table 14—Dry edible beans: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1980, 1981, and indicated 1982[1]

Group State and classes	Area harvested			Production[2]		
	1980	1981	For harvest 1982[3]	1980	1981	Indicated 1982[6]
	1,000 acres			*1,000 cwt.*		
Michigan	570.0	590.0	550.0	7,752	7,198	(6)
New York	48.0	47.0	48.0	614	588	(6)
Northwest[4]	770.0	1,105.0	810.0	11,692	16,511	(6)
Southwest[5]	220.0	238.0	198.0	2,524	3,495	(6)
California:						
Large lima	34.0	30.0	32.5	758	621	(6)
Baby lima	19.0	27.0	27.5	447	629	(6)
Other	160.0	164.0	190.0	2,608	2,772	(6)
Total California	213.0	221.0	250.0	3,813	4,022	(6)
United States	1,821.0	2,201.0	1,856.0	26,395	31,814	(6)

[1]Includes beans grown for garden seed. [2]Cleaned basis. [3]Indicated as of June 1. [4]Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington, Minnesota, and North Dakota. [5]Kansas, Colorado, and Utah. [6]Preliminary estimate available in August.

Sources: Acreage, SRS, USDA. Also, Crop Production annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Dry Beans: U. S. Grower Price *



previous years' market quotations. Prices in late-July were holding steady for both varieties, with large limas going at $34 to $35 per cwt, compared with $38.50 to $39.50 a year earlier. F.o.b. prices for baby limas are $25 to $26 per cwt, almost half of last year's.

Outlook

It appears likely that the bean industry will remain quiet. Domestic demand for dry beans is relatively constant, and foreign interest has diminished. Mexico shows no signs of seeking new contracts, and other countries show only a moderate interest in beans. Despite acreage reductions, supplies should be plentiful if the weather remains good. Given average yields and crop abandonment, this year's outturn would be the second or third largest ever.

Mexican production for 1982/83 is forecast to fall short of its self-sufficiency goal of 1.5 million metric tons. However, stocks are high, partly as a result of equally high 1981 imports from the United States. Barring a crop failure, it appears unlikely that there will be a strong Mexican demand for U.S. beans in the upcoming season.

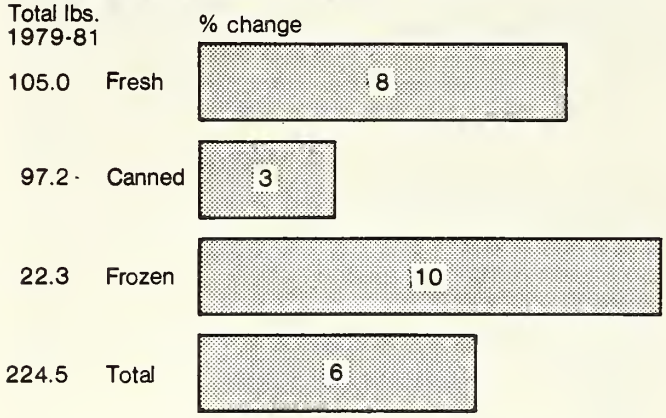
Prices for most varieties will likely remain sharply lower than a year ago for the rest of this year. The season-average price for the 1981 crop is currently put at $21.60 per cwt, compared with $28 for the 1980 crop. The 1982 season-average price, based on current crop expectations, could decline about a fourth and be the lowest since 1978's $17.30 per cwt.

USDA OFFERS FREE REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF VEGETABLE MARKETING ORDERS

Federal marketing orders for vegetables seem to be overrated in their effectiveness by both supporters and opponents of the orders. A report released last year by USDA's Economic Research Service and still available free from the address below, found that prices from 1952-79 for 33 fruits and vegetables covered by marketing orders generally did not exceed prices for similar fruits and vegetables not under orders, nor were prices significantly more stable for order-covered commodities. Even the strongest orders, applying to both quality and quantity of the total U.S. crop did not significantly enhance or stabilize producer prices. The vegetable orders reviewed included those for hops, celery, tomatoes papayas, onions, potatoes, and lettuce.

For a free copy of the report, *Effectiveness of Federal Marketing Orders for Fruits and Vegetables* (AER-471, by Edward Jesse and Aaron Johnson; 47 pages), write to T. McDonald-EMS, Room 1664-S, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or call (202) 447-7305.

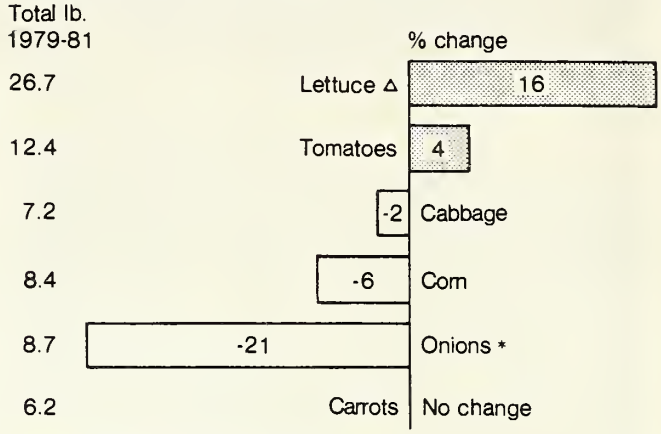
Changes In Vegetable Consumption Per Capita Between, 1970-72 and 1979-81*



* Fresh weight basis; excludes potatoes, sweet potatoes and melons. Dehydrated onions included in fresh.

USDA Neg. ERS 634-82 (7)

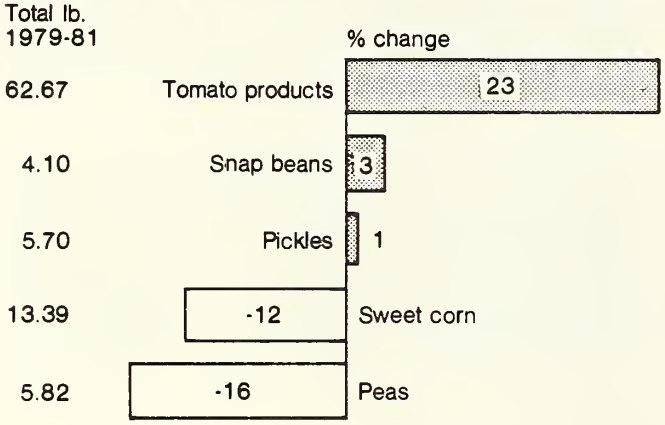
Changes In Fresh Vegetable Consumption Per Capita Between, 1970-72 and 1979-81



* Includes about 3 pounds of dehydrated onions.
△ Includes escarol.

USDA Neg. ERS 8866-82 (7)

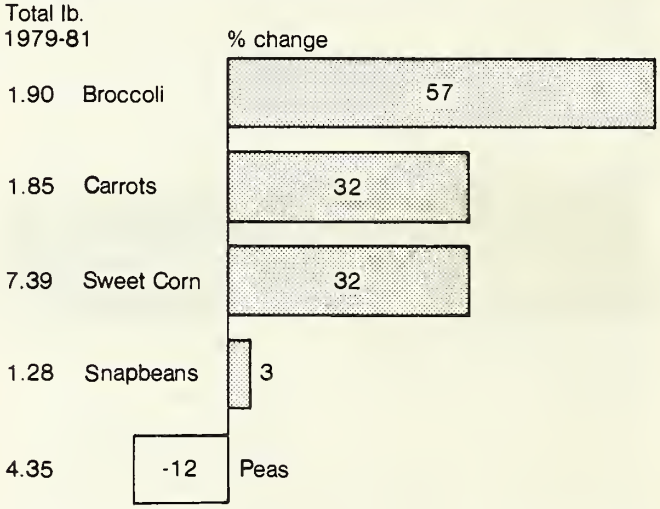
Changes In Canned Vegetable Consumption Per Capita Between 1970-72 and 1979-81*



* Fresh weight basis.

USDA Neg. ERS 8875-82 (7)

Changes In Frozen Vegetable Consumption Per Capita Between 1970-72 and 1979-81*



* Fresh weight basis.

USDA Neg. ERS 8874-82 (7)

TABLE 15.--COMMERCIALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES: CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION, 1961-1981

YEAR	FRESH EQUIVALENT					AS PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL TOTAL			
	TOTAL FRESH AND PROCESSED	FRESH 1/	PROCESSED 2/			FRESH	PROCESSED		
			TOTAL	CANNED	FROZEN		TOTAL	CANNED	FROZEN
	POUNDS					PERCENT			
1961	199.8	103.7	96.1	81.3	14.8	51.9	48.1	40.7	7.4
1962	201.0	101.3	99.7	83.7	16.0	50.4	49.6	41.6	8.0
1963	201.5	101.2	100.3	84.9	15.4	50.2	49.8	42.1	7.6
1964	198.5	98.6	99.9	83.7	16.2	49.7	50.3	42.2	8.2
1965	201.0	98.3	102.7	85.3	17.4	48.9	51.1	42.4	8.7
1966	201.5	95.9	105.6	86.7	18.9	47.6	52.4	43.0	9.4
1967	209.4	98.2	111.2	91.3	19.9	46.9	53.1	43.6	9.5
1968	214.9	101.2	113.7	92.7	21.0	47.1	52.9	43.1	9.8
1969	212.9	98.7	114.2	94.9	19.3	46.4	53.6	44.6	9.1
1970	213.7	99.1	114.6	94.0	20.6	46.4	53.6	44.0	9.6
1971	211.4	98.0	113.4	93.3	20.1	46.4	53.6	44.1	9.5
1972	215.2	98.8	116.4	95.8	20.6	45.9	54.1	44.5	9.6
1973	222.4	99.9	122.5	100.8	21.7	44.9	55.1	45.3	9.8
1974	222.6	102.0	120.6	99.9	20.7	45.8	54.2	44.9	9.3
1975	221.3	101.0	120.3	100.7	19.6	45.6	54.4	45.5	8.9
1976	225.5	103.1	122.4	101.6	20.8	45.7	54.3	45.1	9.2
1977	227.8	104.5	123.3	102.5	20.8	45.9	54.1	45.0	9.1
1978	224.9	106.6	118.3	96.9	21.4	47.4	52.6	43.1	9.5
1979	234.4	109.3	125.1	102.1	23.0	46.6	53.4	43.6	9.8
1980	227.3	111.1	116.2	95.1	21.1	48.9	51.1	41.8	9.3
1981 3/	232.4	108.4	124.0	101.1	22.9	46.6	53.4	43.5	9.9

1/ INCLUDES DEHYDRATED ONIONS AND EXCLUDES MELONS.
2/ DATA INCLUDES PICKLES AND SAUERKRAUT IN BULK; EXCLUDES CANNED AND FROZEN POTATOES, CANNED SWEETPOTATOES, CANNED BABY FOODS AND CANNED SOUPS.
3/ PRELIMINARY.

SOURCE: ERS.

TABLE 16.--FRESH VEGETABLES AND MELONS, COMMERCIAL: CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION, FARM WEIGHT, 1961-1981 1/

CALENDAR YEAR	VEGETABLES												
		LEAFY, GREEN AND YELLOW											
	TOMATOES	ARTICHOKES	ASPARAGUS	SNAP BEANS	BROCCOLI	BRUSSELS SPROUTS	CABBAGE	CARROTS	LETTUCE AND ESCAROLE	GREEN PEPPERS	SPINACH	MINOR 3/	TOTAL
	POUNDS												
1961	12.6	0.3	0.6	2.5	0.4	0.1	9.7	6.8	20.3	2.5	0.8	7.0	51.0
1962	12.7	.2	.6	2.3	.3	.1	9.8	7.0	20.5	2.3	.7	6.0	49.8
1963	12.0	.2	.6	2.2	.4	.1	9.7	7.3	21.4	2.5	.7	5.7	50.8
1964	12.2	.3	.5	2.1	.3	.1	9.5	6.9	21.0	2.3	.6	5.6	49.2
1965	12.0	.3	.6	2.0	.3	.1	8.9	7.0	21.7	2.3	.6	5.2	49.0
1966	12.4	.3	.4	1.9	.3	2/	8.9	6.4	21.6	2.4	.6	4.6	47.4
1967	12.4	.4	.4	2.0	.3	.1	9.1	6.5	22.1	2.6	.6	4.1	48.2
1968	11.9	.3	.5	1.9	.4	2/	9.3	7.5	22.5	2.8	.6	5.5	51.3
1969	11.9	.3	.4	1.8	.4	2/	8.9	6.0	22.5	2.6	.5	4.4	47.8
1970	12.3	.3	.5	1.7	.5	2/	8.8	5.9	23.1	2.4	.5	4.7	48.4
1971	11.4	.4	.4	1.6	.7	2/	9.2	6.1	23.1	2.5	.5	4.4	48.9
1972	12.1	.3	.5	1.6	.7	2/	8.8	6.5	23.2	2.7	.5	4.5	49.3
1973	12.5	.3	.4	1.5	.8	2/	8.9	6.7	23.7	2.8	.5	4.2	49.8
1974	11.8	.3	.4	1.5	.8	2/	9.1	6.9	24.2	3.0	.4	4.4	51.0
1975	11.9	.3	.4	1.6	1.0	2/	9.1	6.4	24.2	3.1	.5	4.3	50.9
1976	12.6	.3	.4	1.6	1.1	2/	8.8	6.4	24.9	2.8	.5	4.5	51.3
1977	12.4	.3	.4	1.5	1.2	2/	8.5	5.0	26.4	3.4	.6	5.3	52.6
1978	13.2	.3	.3	1.4	1.3	2/	8.9	5.9	26.2	3.4	.6	5.1	53.4
1979	12.9	.4	.3	1.4	1.5	2/	8.5	5.8	26.6	3.6	.7	5.6	54.4
1980	13.4	.3	.3	1.4	1.8	2/	9.0	6.3	27.4	3.6	.8	6.0	56.9
1981 4/	13.3	.5	.3	1.4	2.1	2/	8.6	6.5	26.2	3.5	.9	6.0	56.0

SEE FOOTNOTES AT END OF TABLE.

CONTINUED--

TABLE 16--FRESH VEGETABLES AND MELONS, COMMERCIAL: CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION, FARM WEIGHT, 1961-1981 1/--CONTINUED

CALENDAR YEAR	VEGETABLES										MELONS			TOTAL VEGETABLES AND MELONS	DEHYDRATED ONIONS
	OTHER									TOTAL VEGETABLES					
	CAULIFLOWER 5/	CELERY	CORN	CUCUMBERS	EGGPLANT	GARLIC	ONIONS AND SHALLOTS 6/ 7/	MINOR 3/	TOTAL		WATERMELONS	CANTALOUPS	TOTAL MELONS		
	POUNDS														
1961	1.1	7.7	8.4	3.0	0.4	0.3	11.5	7.7	40.1	103.7	16.3	8.5	24.8	128.5	N.A.
1962	1.2	7.2	8.3	2.8	.4	.2	11.7	7.0	38.8	101.3	14.6	8.5	23.1	124.4	N.A.
1963	1.1	6.9	8.2	3.1	.4	.3	11.9	6.5	38.4	101.2	15.9	8.7	24.6	125.8	N.A.
1964	1.0	6.8	7.8	3.0	.4	.4	11.4	6.4	37.2	98.6	14.8	8.2	23.0	121.6	N.A.
1965	1.0	6.7	8.1	3.1	.4	.4	11.4	6.2	37.3	98.3	15.7	7.9	23.6	121.9	N.A.
1966	1.0	6.9	7.4	3.0	.4	.3	11.5	5.6	36.1	95.9	14.8	7.3	22.1	118.0	N.A.
1967	1.0	6.8	8.0	3.1	.4	.4	12.1	5.8	37.6	98.2	14.2	8.1	22.3	120.5	N.A.
1968	1.0	7.2	7.8	2.9	.4	.5	11.9	6.3	38.0	101.2	14.4	8.6	23.0	124.2	N.A.
1969	.9	7.3	8.0	3.2	.4	.5	12.3	6.4	39.0	98.7	13.8	9.1	22.9	121.6	N.A.
1970	.7	7.2	7.9	3.2	.4	.5	12.2	6.3	38.4	99.1	14.4	8.8	23.2	122.3	N.A.
1971	.7	7.3	7.5	3.1	.4	.3	9.8	6.1	35.2	95.5	14.1	8.5	22.6	118.1	2.5
1972	.8	7.1	7.8	3.3	.5	.4	9.8	5.7	35.4	96.8	13.1	8.7	21.8	118.6	2.0
1973	.8	7.5	8.0	3.0	.6	.5	9.2	5.6	35.2	97.5	13.7	7.9	21.6	119.1	2.4
1974	.8	7.3	7.6	3.4	.5	.7	10.5	5.6	36.4	99.2	11.8	7.0	18.8	118.0	2.8
1975	.9	7.0	7.8	3.1	.6	.8	9.5	5.5	35.2	98.0	12.1	6.8	18.9	116.9	3.0
1976	1.0	7.4	8.1	3.6	.6	.5	10.0	5.7	36.9	100.8	13.3	6.9	20.2	121.0	2.3
1977	1.1	7.0	7.7	3.9	.6	.8	10.0	5.7	36.8	101.8	13.6	7.5	21.1	122.9	2.7
1978	.9	7.3	7.5	4.2	.6	.8	10.3	5.7	37.3	103.9	12.8	9.0	21.8	125.7	2.7
1979	1.3	7.4	7.3	4.3	.6	1.0	11.2	5.9	39.0	106.3	12.3	8.4	20.7	127.0	3.0
1980	1.4	7.8	7.2	4.3	.6	1.0	9.9	5.5	37.7	108.0	11.4	7.2	18.6	126.6	3.1
1981 4/	1.8	7.7	7.1	4.4	.6	.8	9.4	4.4	36.2	105.4	12.3	8.6	20.9	126.3	3.0

N.A. = NOT AVAILABLE.
1/ EXCLUDES QUANTITIES PRODUCED IN HOME GARDENS.
2/ LESS THAN 0.05 POUNDS.
3/ BEGINNING 1960 LIMA BEANS (UNSHELLED), KALE, AND GREEN PEAS (UNSHELLED), INCLUDED IN LEAFY, GREEN, AND YELLOW MINOR VEGETABLES, AND BEETS INCLUDED IN OTHER MINOR VEGETABLES.
4/ PRELIMINARY.
5/ CLOSE TRIM BASES.
6/ INCLUDES LESS THAN 0.05 POUNDS OF SHALLOTS THROUGH 1967; SINCE 1968, INCLUDED IN MINOR VEGETABLES.
7/ EXCLUDES DEHYDRATED ONIONS BEGINNING 1971.

SOURCE: ERS.

Table 17.--Canned vegetables: Per capita consumption, processed weight, averages 1947-49, 1957-59 and annual 1965 to date 1/

Period	Leafy, green, and yellow vegetables							Tomato products				Other vegetables							
	Asparagus	Lima beans	Snap beans	Carrots	Peas	Pumpkin and squash	Spinach	Whole tomatoes	Catsup and chili sauce	Paste and sauce	Pulp and puree	Tomato and other vegetable juices 2/	Beets	Corn	Pickles	Sauerkraut	Sweet potatoes	Other 3/	Total
	Pounds																		
1947-49	.6	.4	2.8	.4	5.7	.6	1.1	4.3	2.5	2.4	.9	4.2	1.1	5.2	3.3	1.8	.4	1.4	39.1
1957-59	.8	.4	4.1	.5	4.8	.6	1.0	4.6	3.5	3.4	.7	5.0	1.4	5.3	4.5	1.6	1.0	1.6	44.8
Year																			
1965	.8	.3	4.8	.6	4.1	.5	.8	4.5	5.0	4/3.9	.8	4.7	1.4	5.5	6.2	1.4	1.3	2.1	48.7
1966	.7	.2	5.1	.7	4.2	.5	.7	4.6	4.8	4/4.2	1.0	4.4	1.4	5.2	6.6	1.4	1.2	2.1	49.0
1967	.7	.4	5.1	.7	4.1	.5	.7	4.6	4.7	4/5.0	1.0	4.2	1.4	5.4	7.3	1.4	1.1	2.3	50.6
1968	.7	.3	5.5	.6	4.2	.6	.8	4.9	5/9.8		1.1	4.0	1.3	5.8	7.7	1.6	1.3	2.1	52.3
1969	.7	.4	5.7	.6	4.1	.5	.6	4.9	5/10.1		1.0	4.1	1.5	6.1	7.7	1.4	1.5	2.8	53.7
1970	.7	.4	5.8	.6	3.9	.5	.8	4.8	5/10.1		1.0	4.1	1.5	5.9	7.4	1.5	1.2	2.7	52.8
1971	.6	.4	5.9	.6	3.8	.5	.7	4.9	5/9.9		1.0	3.9	1.4	6.2	7.6	1.6	1.2	4.1	54.1
1972	.6	.3	5.8	.8	3.8	.6	.8	5.1	5/10.2		1.1	3.7	1.5	6.5	7.8	1.4	1.1	4.1	54.9
1973	.7	.3	5.9	.6	4.2	.6	.9	5.7	5/11.2		1.2	3.3	1.3	6.4	7.9	1.4	1.3	4.3	57.3
1974	.5	.3	5.9	.6	3.5	.6	.8	4.9	5/11.9		1.2	3.6	1.3	6.0	7.7	1.5	1.4	4.7	56.4
1975	.5	.3	5.5	.6	3.4	.6	.6	4.9	5/13.4		1.0	3.6	1.3	5.0	7.7	1.3	.9	4.0	54.6
1976	.6	.3	5.9	.5	3.6	.5	.6	5.1	5/13.1		1.1	2.8	1.3	5.7	8.3	1.4	.9	3.2	54.9
1977	.4	.4	5.8	.6	3.8	.4	.6	5.1	5/13.2		.9	3.1	1.4	6.2	8.1	1.4	.8	3.1	55.3
1978	.3	.3	5.9	.5	3.6	.5	.7	5.2	5/12.6		1.0	3.6	1.4	5.9	8.2	1.3	1.1	2.2	54.1
1979	.3	.3	5.9	.5	3.2	.6	.8	5.7	5/14.1		1.0	2.8	1.0	5.4	8.7	1.0	1.0	2.3	54.6
1980	.3	.3	6.3	.5	3.3	.2	.5	6.0	5/11.5		.8	3.1	1.2	5.8	7.8	1.3	1.0	2.2	52.1
1981 6/	.3	.3	5.3	.4	3.0	.4	.5	6.1	5/15.1		.9	1.8	1.2	5.1	7.4	1.2	.7	2.0	51.7

1/ Excludes soups and baby food. Civilian consumption only. 2/ Based on information available for 1944-46, tomato juice comprises approximately 85 percent of the total, combination vegetable juices 13 percent, and other vegetable juices 2 percent. Combination vegetable juice contains approximately 70 percent or more tomato juice. 3/ Includes miscellaneous greens, pimentos, potatoes, mixed vegetables, and all items, especially in earlier years, for which no separate data are available. 4/ Estimated. 5/ Estimate combines paste, sauce, catsup and chili sauce. 6/ Preliminary.

Table 18.--Frozen vegetables: Per capita consumption, processed weight, averages 1947-49, 1957-59 and annual 1965 to date 1/

Period	Leafy, green, and yellow vegetables										Other vegetables								
	Asparagus	Snap beans	Lima beans	Carrots	Peas	Peas and carrots	Pumpkin and squash	Broccoli	Brussels sprouts	Southern greens	Spinach	Other 2/	Cauliflower	Corn cutbasis	Succotash	Onions	Rhubarb	Potato products	Total 3/
	Pounds																		
1947-49	.1	.3	.4	.1	.8	.1	.1	.2	.1	(4)	.3	.1	.1	.2	(5)	(4)	(5)	(5)	12.9
1957-59	.2	.8	.7	.3	1.6	.1	.1	.6	.2	(4)	.6	.6	.2	.6	.1	(4)	(5)	1.6	8.1
Year																			
1965	.2	.9	.7	.5	2.0	(4)	.1	.7	.2	(4)	.6	.9	.2	1.1	(4)	(4)	(5)	5.7	13.8
1966	.2	1.1	.7	.6	2.1	(4)	.1	.7	.2	(4)	.7	1.1	.3	1.3	(4)	(4)	(5)	6.9	15.8
1967	.2	.9	.7	.7	1.9	(4)	.1	.8	.2	(4)	.7	1.1	.3	1.6	(4)	(4)	(5)	7.6	16.6
1968	.2	1.0	.7	.7	2.1	(4)	.1	.8	.2	(4)	.7	1.1	.3	1.6	(4)	.2	(5)	8.5	18.2
1969	.2	1.0	.6	.7	1.8	(4)	.1	.8	.2	(4)	.7	1.0	.3	1.4	(4)	.2	(5)	9.8	18.9
1970	.1	1.1	.7	.8	1.9	(4)	.1	.8	.2	(4)	.7	1.1	.3	1.6	(4)	.3	(5)	11.1	20.8
1971	.1	1.0	.6	.7	1.8	(4)	.1	.9	.2	(4)	.7	1.2	.4	1.5	(4)	.3	(5)	12.1	21.8
1972	.1	1.1	.7	.8	1.8	(4)	.1	1.0	.2	(4)	.7	1.1	.4	1.5	(4)	.5	(5)	12.2	22.1
1973	.1	1.1	.7	1.0	1.8	(4)	.2	1.1	.2	(4)	.7	1.3	.4	1.6	(4)	.5	.1	13.2	23.8
1974	.1	1.1	.6	1.0	1.7	(4)	.1	1.0	.3	(4)	.8	.9	.4	1.6	(4)	.5	.1	13.1	23.2
1975	.1	.9	.6	.9	1.7	(4)	(4)	.9	.2	.3	.7	.9	.4	1.5	(4)	.6	(4)	13.7	23.3
1976	.1	1.1	.5	.9	1.6	(4)	(4)	1.0	.3	.3	.7	1.1	.4	1.5	(4)	.7	(4)	14.6	24.7
1977	.1	1.0	.5	1.0	1.5	(4)	(4)	1.1	.2	.3	.7	.9	.4	1.7	(4)	.7	(4)	15.7	26.0
1978	.1	1.0	.5	1.0	1.6	(4)	(4)	1.4	.3	.3	.7	.9	.5	1.8	(4)	.7	(4)	17.2	27.9
1979	.1	1.1	.5	1.1	1.7	(4)	(4)	1.3	.3	.4	.7	.8	.5	2.1	(4)	.7	(4)	17.7	29.0
1980	.1	1.0	.5	.9	1.5	(4)	(4)	1.4	.3	.2	.8	.7	.5	1.9	(4)	.7	(4)	16.9	27.3
1981 6/	.1	1.1	.5	1.0	1.6	(4)	(4)	1.5	.3	.3	.8	.9	.6	2.1	(4)	.7	(4)	18.2	29.5

1/ Civilian consumption only. 2/ Included with leafy, green, and yellow because most items included are considered to be green. 3/ Computed from unrounded data. 4/ Included with "other". 5/ Less than .05 pounds. 6/ Preliminary.

Table 19—Civilian per capita consumption of selected commercially produced fresh and processed vegetables[1] United States, calendar years 1971-81

Commodity	Fresh equivalent basis										
	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981[2]
	Pounds										
Asparagus											
Fresh	.40	.50	.40	.40	.40	.40	.40	.30	.30	.30	.30
Canned	.73	.70	.83	.61	.64	.66	.48	.45	.33	.33	.37
Frozen	.24	.19	.21	.19	.17	.21	.17	.17	.14	.12	.11
Beans, lima[3]											
Canned	.50	.44	.43	.42	.37	.41	.47	.39	.22	.19	.17
Frozen	1.35	1.45	1.46	1.32	1.14	1.00	1.12	1.03	1.04	.99	1.06
Beans, snap											
Fresh	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.50	1.60	1.60	1.50	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40
Canned	4.00	3.97	4.00	4.02	3.80	4.07	3.99	3.82	4.17	4.03	3.74
Frozen	1.22	1.26	1.34	1.27	1.04	1.35	1.18	1.19	1.42	1.16	1.26
Broccoli											
Fresh	.70	.70	.80	.80	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.20	1.80	2.10
Frozen	1.19	1.32	1.41	1.38	1.27	1.38	1.53	1.83	1.78	1.86	2.02
Cabbage											
Fresh	9.20	8.80	9.00	9.10	9.10	8.80	8.50	8.90	8.50	9.00	8.06
Canned[4]	2.46	2.18	2.18	2.39	2.08	2.21	2.18	2.06	1.63	1.90	1.94
Corn[5]											
Fresh	7.50	7.90	8.00	7.60	7.80	8.10	7.70	7.40	7.30	7.20	7.10
Canned	15.12	15.91	15.68	14.70	12.44	13.96	15.19	14.39	13.32	8.96	12.49
Frozen	5.41	5.41	5.88	5.78	5.63	5.69	6.46	6.75	7.35	7.18	7.65
Cucumbers											
Fresh	3.10	3.30	3.00	3.40	3.10	3.60	3.90	4.20	4.30	4.30	4.40
Canned[6]	5.63	5.80	5.88	5.74	5.76	6.14	6.03	6.15	6.23	4.23	5.53
Peas, green[3]											
Canned	6.83	6.84	7.65	6.30	6.19	6.48	6.90	6.33	5.84	6.04	5.59
Frozen	4.92	4.92	4.80	4.74	4.59	4.36	4.07	4.15	4.64	4.18	4.22
Spinach											
Fresh	.50	.40	.50	.40	.50	.50	.60	.60	.70	.80	1.00
Canned	.58	.64	.72	.69	.48	.46	.46	.54	.75	.66	.42
Frozen	1.04	1.03	.96	1.13	.92	1.01	1.03	1.05	1.25	1.08	1.08
Tomatoes											
Fresh	11.40	12.20	12.60	11.80	11.90	12.60	12.40	13.20	12.90	13.40	11.00
Canned[7]	50.23	51.72	55.76	57.31	61.75	60.36	60.60	58.16	63.59	75.03	66.20

[1]Data for processed vegetables excludes quantities consumed in commercially produced soups, and baby foods and in canned wholesale mixtures such as peas and carrots and succotash. [2]Preliminary. [3] In pod" basis. [4]Sauerkraut, canned and bulk. [5] On-cob" basis. [6]Pickles, canned and bulk. [7]Including canned whole tomatoes and tomato products other than soup.

Table 20—Potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas: Per capita consumption, primary distribution weight, averages 1947-49, 1957-59 and annual 1965 to date[1]

Period	Potatoes[2]	Sweet-potatoes[3]	Dry edible beans[4]	Dry field peas[5]
		Pounds		
1947-49	114	13.0	6.7	0.6
1957-59	107	8.3	7.7	.6
Year				
1965	108	6.2	6.6	.4
1966	118	6.3	6.3	.4
1967	108	5.8	6.9	.2
1968	115	5.7	6.4	.3
1969	117	5.7	6.9	.3
1970	117	5.6	6.2	.3
1971	118	4.9	6.4	.3
1972	119	5.1	5.6	.3
1973	116	5.1	7.0	.5
1974	113	5.4	5.0	.4
1975	120	5.5	6.5	.4
1976	114	5.4	6.0	.4
1977	120	4.9	6.2	.2
1978	119	5.4	4.8	.4
1979	116	5.6	4.7	.4
1980	116	5.7	4.6	.4
1981[6]	120	5.7	5.7	.4

[1]Civilian consumption only. [2]Farm weight basis, calendar years. Includes farm garden produce but not nonfarm. Includes table-stock and processed potatoes. [3]Includes canned sweetpotatoes. [4]Cleaned basis, calendar years. [5]Cleaned basis, crop years beginning approximately September of year indicated. [6]Preliminary.

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